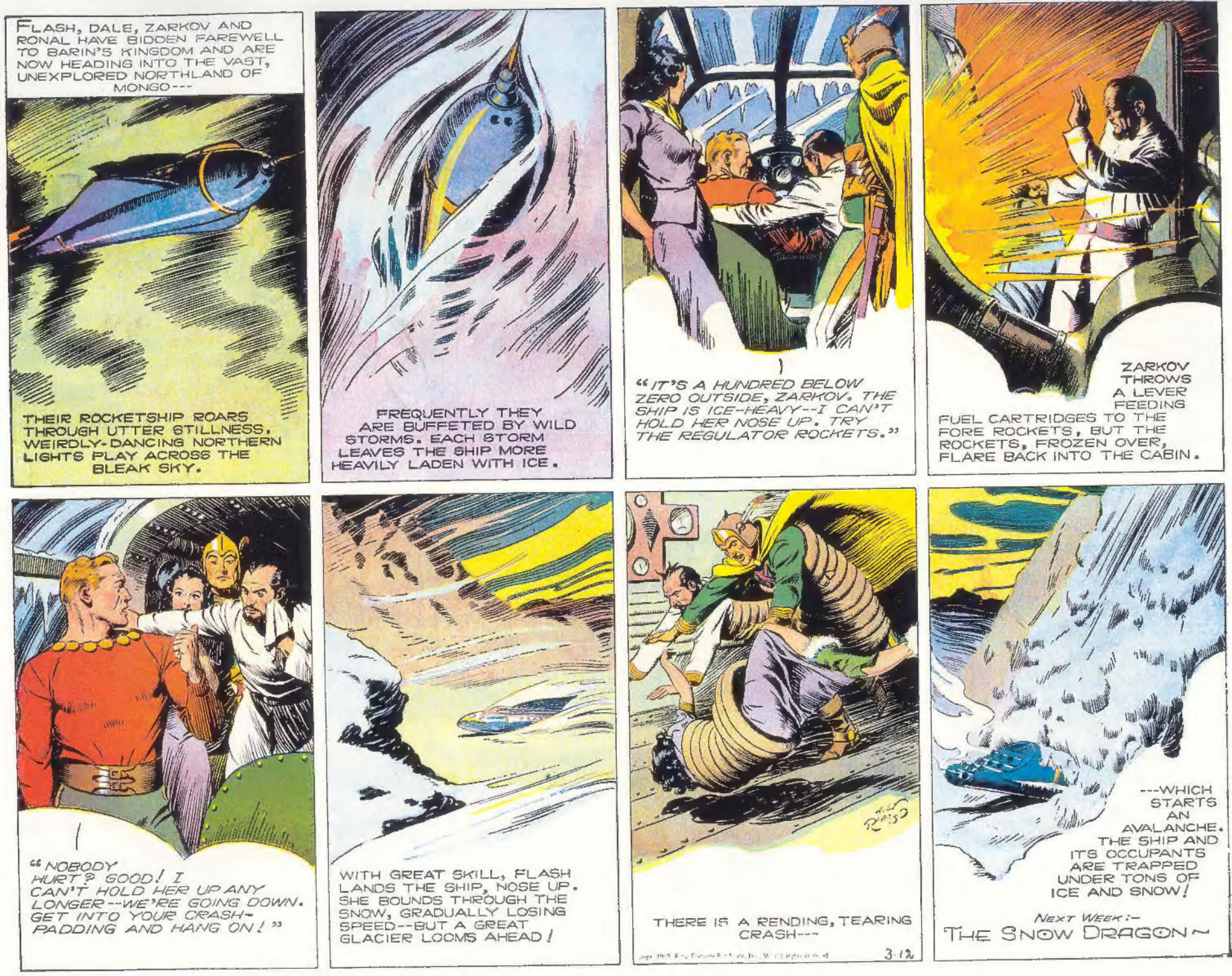
FLASH, DALE, ZARKOV AND RONAL HAVE BIDDEN FAREWELL TO BARIN'S KINGDOM AND ARE NOW HEADING INTO THE VAST, UNEXPLORED NORTHLAND OF MONGO---
THEIR ROCKETSHIP ROARS THROUGH UTTER STILLNESS. WEIRDLY-DANCING NORTHERN LIGHTS PLAY ACROSS THE BLEAK SKY.
FREQUENTLY THEY ARE BUFFETED BY WILD STORMS. EACH STORM LEAVES THE SHIP MORE HEAVILY LADEN WITH ICE.
"IT'S A HUNDRED BELOW ZERO OUTSIDE, ZARKOV. THE SHIP IS ICE-HEAVY--I CAN'T HOLD HER NOSE UP. TRY THE REGULATOR ROCKETS."
ZARKOV THROWS A LEVER FEEDING FUEL CARTRIDGES TO THE FORE ROCKETS, BUT THE ROCKETS, FROZEN OVER, FLARE BACK INTO THE CABIN.
"NOBODY HURT? GOOD! I CAN'T HOLD HER UP ANY LONGER--WE'RE GOING DOWN. GET INTO YOUR CRASH-PADDING AND HANG ON!"
WITH GREAT SKILL, FLASH LANDS THE SHIP, NOSE UP. SHE BOUNDS THROUGH THE SNOW, GRADUALLY LOSING SPEED--BUT A GREAT GLACIER LOOMS AHEAD!
THERE IS A RENDING, TEARING CRASH---
3-12
---WHICH STARTS AN AVALANCHE. THE SHIP AND ITS OCCUPANTS ARE TRAPPED UNDER TONS OF ICE AND SNOW!
NEXT WEEK:-
THE SNOW DRAGON~

IN MAKING A FORCED LANDING IN MONGO'S UNEXPLORED NORTHLAND, FLASH CRASHES AGAINST A GLACIER, BRINGING TONS OF ICE AND SNOW DOWN ON HIS SHIP.

"QUICK, EVERYONE, GET INTO YOUR ICE-SUITS BEFORE WE FREEZE! ZARKOV, GET THE HEAT-GUNS -- WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE THE SHIP COLLAPSES!"

WITH THEIR PISTOL-LIKE HEAT-GUNS, THEY START BORING A CIRCULAR TUNNEL FROM THEIR IMPRISONED ROCKET SHIP OUTWARD.

THEY FINALLY BREAK THROUGH INTO THE FIERCE COLD OF THE OUTSIDE WORLD---
"ZARKOV, YOU AND RONAL CARVE A SHELTER IN THE FACE OF THAT GLACIER, WHILE I HUNT SOME FRESH MEAT."

HOURS LATER, WHILE FLASH IS BUSILY TRAILING AN ICE-BEAR---

--ANOTHER HUNGRY CREATURE STALKS FLASH AS FOOD!
3-19

IN SIGHT OF HIS PREY, FLASH AIMS CAREFULLY AND FIRES---
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--UNAWARE THAT THE GREAT SNOW-DRAGON, SITTING ON ITS BROAD, TOBOGGAN-LIKE TAIL IS HURTLING DOWN ON HIM!
NEXT WEEK:-
INTERRUPTED FEAST-

STRANDED IN THE ICY NORTH, FLASH IS ATTACKED BY A SNOW-DRAGON, JUST AS HE SHOOTS AN ICE-BEAR.
AS THE MONSTER, SEATED ON ITS BROAD, TOBOGGAN-LIKE TAIL, HURTLES DOWN ON HIM, FLASH DROPS TO HIS KNEE, TAKES COOL AIM, AND FIRES.

ENCUMBERED BY HIS SNOW-SHOES, FLASH IS UNABLE TO DODGE THE DYING BEAST'S ONRUSHING BODY.

THEY CRASH AGAINST THE BASE OF A CLIFF. FLASH DAZEDLY STRUGGLES FROM BENEATH THE DRAGON, HIS SHOULDER LACERATED AND BLEEDING.

HE STANCHES HIS BLOOD WITH SNOW, THEN SEVERS THE DRAGON'S BROAD TAIL. TO THIS HE LASHES RAWHIDE STRIPS.

WITH THE ICE-BEAR'S BODY LOADED ONTO HIS IMPROVISED SLED, FLASH STARTS THE LONG TREK BACK TO HIS WAITING FRIENDS.

MUCH LATER, A HARDY TROOP, LED BY A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN, GLIDES ALONG FLASH'S TRAIL. THEIR ATHLETIC BODIES ARE SHIELDED FROM THE COLD BY A LIGHT, TRANSPARENT GARB, WHICH COVERS THEM FROM HEAD TO FOOT.
3-26

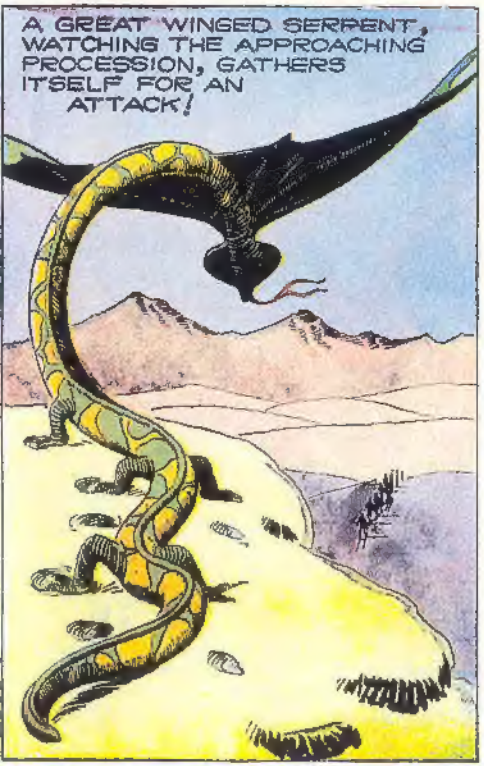
A WILD, CLEAR YELL CUTS THE ICY STILLNESS--FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS DROP THE REMAINDER OF THEIR BEAR-MEAT FEAST AND SCRAMBLE TO THE ENTRANCE OF THEIR GLACIER DUGOUT. NEXT WEEK:-
THE SNOW QUEEN-

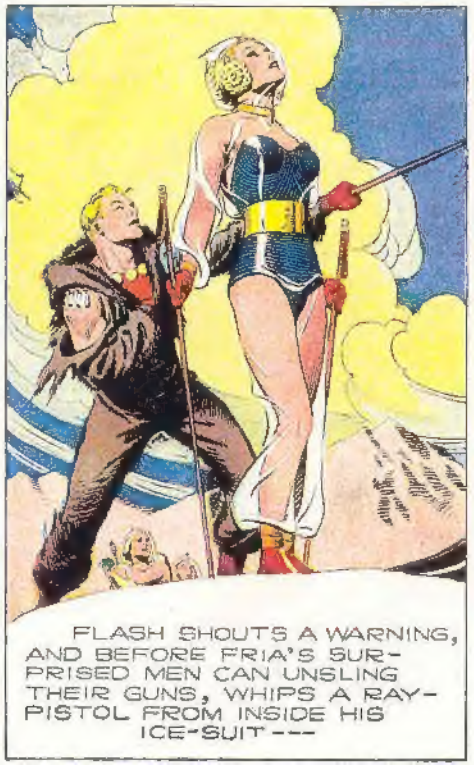
IN ANSWER TO A RINGING CHALLENGE FROM WITHOUT, FLASH, DALE, ZARKOV AND RONAL SCRAMBLE TO THE ENTRANCE OF THEIR GLACIER HIDEOUT, TO FIND THEMSELVES TRAPPED BY A BAND OF HARDY NORTHMEN, LED BY A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.

"I'M GOING DOWN AND SPEAK TO HER, ZARKOV. WE WANT TO MAKE FRIENDS, IF POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND YOUR GUNS READY."

"YOU SEE, WE COME AS FRIENDS. MY NAME IS FLASH GORDON. WHAT IS YOURS?"
"FRIA, QUEEN OF FRIGIA. I NEVER HEARD OF YOU. YOU MAY CONSIDER YOURSELVES MY PRISONERS--NOT MY GUESTS!"

"WE COULD HAVE FOUGHT THEM OFF, FLASH! YOU'RE MAKING A MISTAKE. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO DALE?"
"THERE ARE MORE WHERE THESE PEOPLE CAME FROM, RONAL. THEY'D HAVE GOTTEN US EVENTUALLY. AND NOBODY IS GOING TO HARM DALE! NOT IF I KNOW IT!"


A GREAT WINGED SERPENT, WATCHING THE APPROACHING PROCESSION, GATHERS ITSELF FOR AN ATTACK!


FLASH SHOUTS A WARNING, AND BEFORE FRIA'S SURPRISED MEN CAN UNSLING THEIR GUNS, WHIPS A RAY-PISTOL FROM INSIDE HIS ICE-SUIT---

--HE FIRES ONCE, AND THE SNOW-SERPENT SEEMS TO BURST IN MID-AIR!
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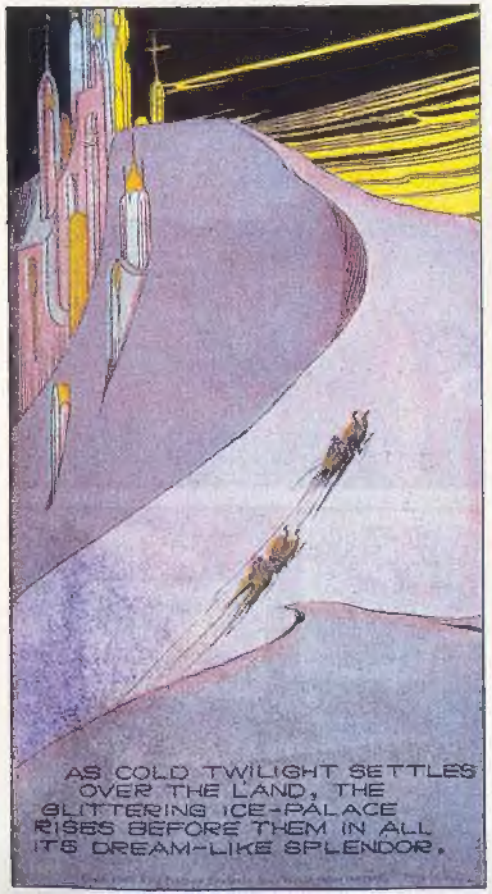
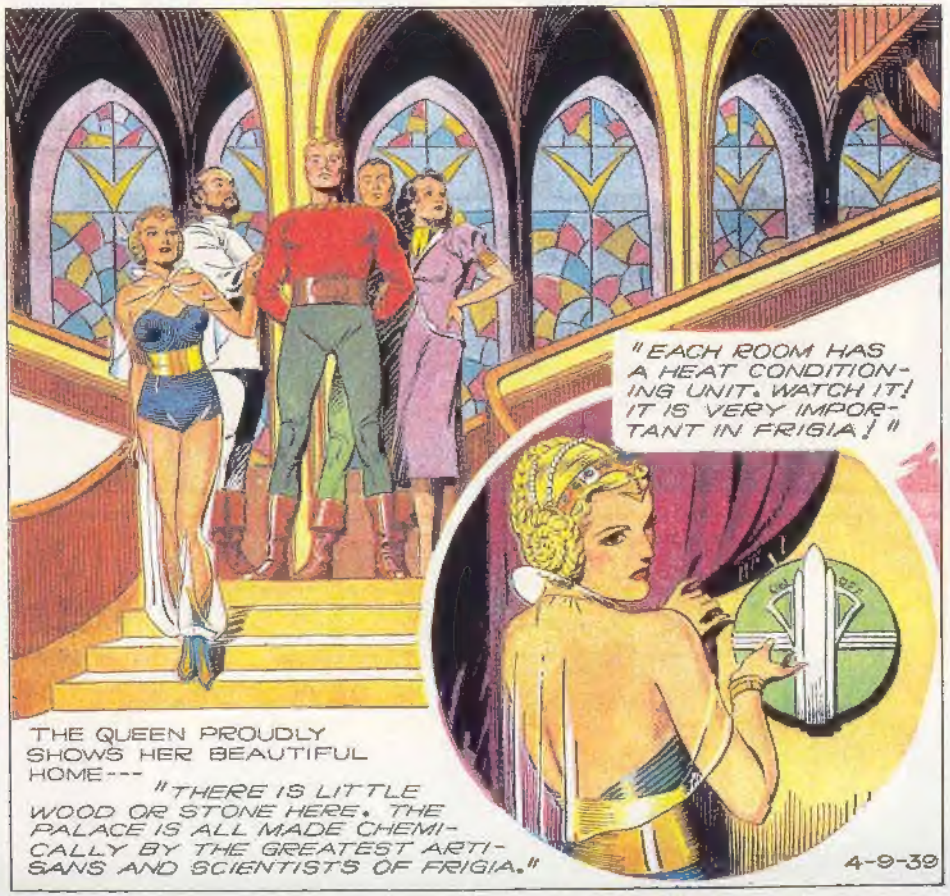
4-2

"THANK YOU, BUT WHERE DID YOU GET THE RAY-GUN? YOU PRETENDED TO BE UNARMED."
"I PRETENDED NOTHING. YOU SEE, WE ARE YOUR GUESTS--NOT YOUR PRISONERS."
NEXT WEEK:- THE ICE PALACE

FLASH HAS SAVED THE LIFE OF QUEEN FRIA OF THE ICE WORLD. SHE HONORS HIM BY ASKING HIM TO DRIVE HER SNOWBIRD-DRAWN CHARIOT ON THE LONG DASH TO THE PALACE OF FRIGIA.

COUNT MALO SEETHES WITH JEALOUS FURY AT HAVING BEEN DISPLACED IN THE ROYAL CHARIOT. DALE NOTES THIS WITH DEEP CONCERN.


AS COLD TWILIGHT SETTLES OVER THE LAND, THE GLITTERING ICE-PALACE RISES BEFORE THEM IN ALL ITS DREAM-LIKE SPLENDOR.


"EACH ROOM HAS A HEAT CONDITIONING UNIT. WATCH IT! IT IS VERY IMPORTANT IN FRIGIA!"
THE QUEEN PROUDLY SHOWS HER BEAUTIFUL HOME---
"THERE IS LITTLE WOOD OR STONE HERE. THE PALACE IS ALL MADE CHEMICALLY BY THE GREATEST ARTISANS AND SCIENTISTS OF FRIGIA."
4-9-39

LATE THAT NIGHT, THE SINISTER COUNT MALO STEALS INTO FLASH'S ROOM. HIS RIGHT HAND HOLDS AN ICE-GUN, HIS LEFT SHUTS OFF THE VITAL HEAT-CONDITIONING UNIT!
NEXT WEEK:-
THE SHROUD OF ICE~

TURNING OFF THE HEAT-CONDITIONING UNIT, SO THE ICE WON'T MELT, JEALOUS COUNT MALO AIMS HIS ICE-GUN AT THE SLEEPING FLASH. HE SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER---
---AND A SHEATH OF ICE COVERS FLASH'S FACE!

HEARING A SUSPICIOUS SOUND, DOCTOR ZARKOV LEAPS FROM HIS BED AND TIPTOES TO THE DOOR SEPARATING HIS ROOM FROM FLASH'S.

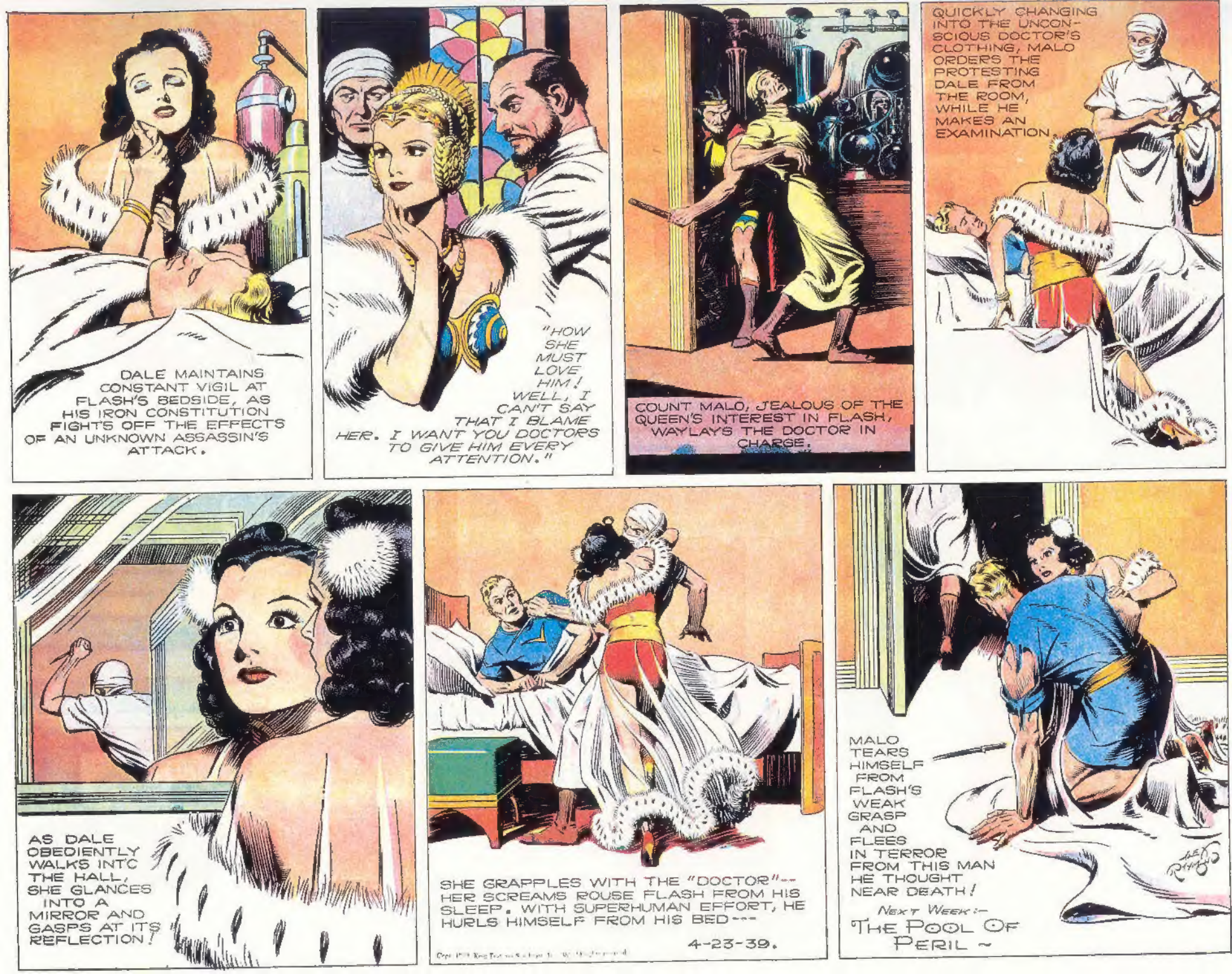
HE FLINGS OPEN THE DOOR AND A BEAM FROM MALO'S GUN TURNS HIS LEFT SHOULDER TO ICE!

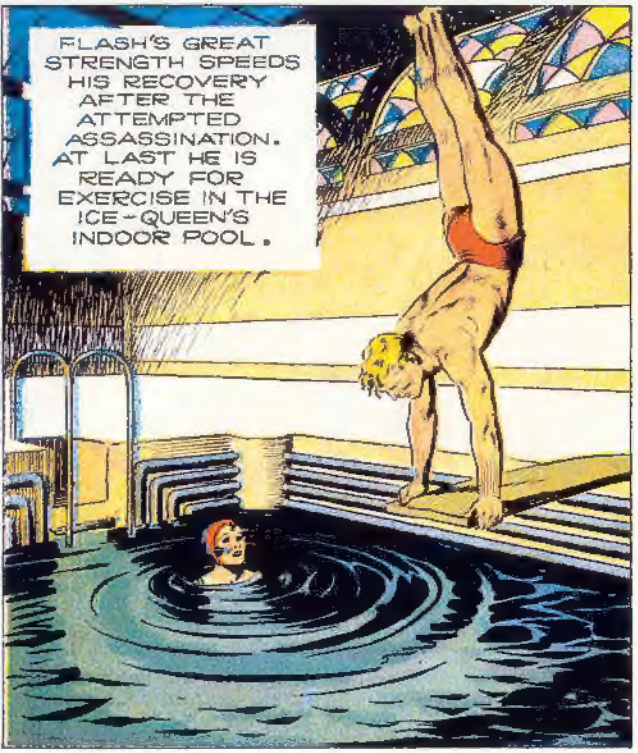
THE ASSASSIN MAKES HIS ESCAPE, AS ZARKOV PRESSES A BUTTON, CAUSING ALARM SIRENS TO WAIL THROUGHOUT THE PALACE.

HALF-CRAZED WITH GRIEF AT SIGHT OF FLASH'S ICE-ENCASED BODY, DALE FLINGS HERSELF AT QUEEN FRIA, SOBBING---
"THIS IS ALL YOUR DOING, YOU WITCH!"
FRIA GENTLY REPLIES---
"YOU'RE HYSTERICAL, GIRL--I LIKED HIM."

HEAT MELTS THE ICE, BUT ALL STIMULANTS FAIL.
THE QUEEN'S DOCTOR GIVES UP HOPE---"NO USE--HE'S FROZEN THROUGH!"
"TRY EVERYTHING. HE CAN'T DIE! TRY PENETRO-RAYS!" PLEADS ZARKOV.

FLASH IS PLACED UNDER GIANT PENETRO-ELECTRODES. THE HEAT BECOMES UNBEARABLE. SUDDENLY, ZARKOV SHOUTS---"ENOUGH! HE'S BREATHING--HE'S BREATHING!"
4-16-39
NEXT WEEK:—DEATH STALKS AGAIN


DALE MAINTAINS CONSTANT VIGIL AT FLASH'S BEDSIDE, AS HIS IRON CONSTITUTION FIGHTS OFF THE EFFECTS OF AN UNKNOWN ASSASSIN'S ATTACK.
"HOW SHE MUST LOVE HIM! WELL, I CAN'T SAY THAT I BLAME HER. I WANT YOU DOCTORS TO GIVE HIM EVERY ATTENTION."
COUNT MALO, JEALOUS OF THE QUEEN'S INTEREST IN FLASH, WAYLAYS THE DOCTOR IN CHARGE.
QUICKLY CHANGING INTO THE UNCONSCIOUS DOCTOR'S CLOTHING, MALO ORDERS THE PROTESTING DALE FROM THE ROOM, WHILE HE MAKES AN EXAMINATION.
AS DALE OBEDIENTLY WALKS INTO THE HALL, SHE GLANCES INTO A MIRROR AND GASPS AT ITS REFLECTION!
SHE GRAPPLES WITH THE "DOCTOR"-- HER SCREAMS ROUSE FLASH FROM HIS SLEEP. WITH SUPERHUMAN EFFORT, HE HURLS HIMSELF FROM HIS BED---
4-23-39.
MALO TEARS HIMSELF FROM FLASH'S WEAK GRASP AND FLEES IN TERROR FROM THIS MAN HE THOUGHT NEAR DEATH!
NEXT WEEK:- THE POOL OF PERIL ~

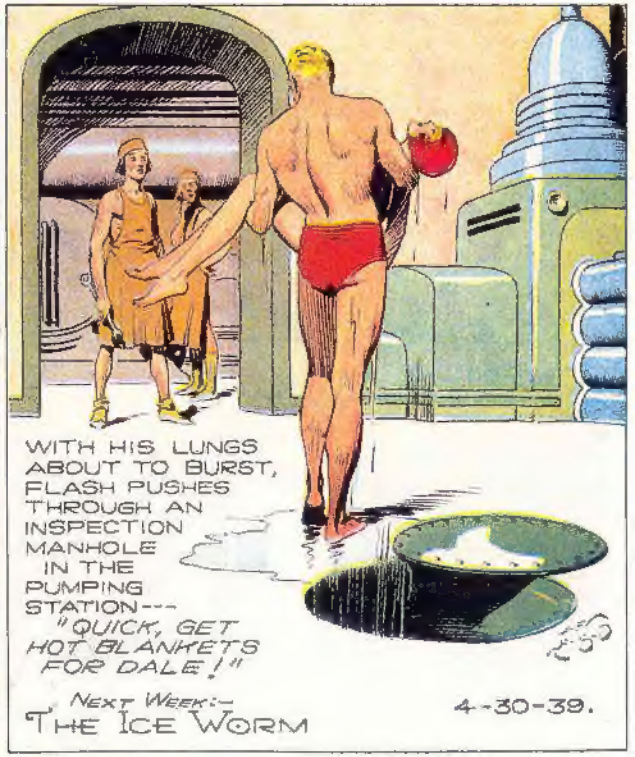

FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH SPEEDS HIS RECOVERY AFTER THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION. AT LAST HE IS READY FOR EXERCISE IN THE ICE-QUEEN'S INDOOR POOL.

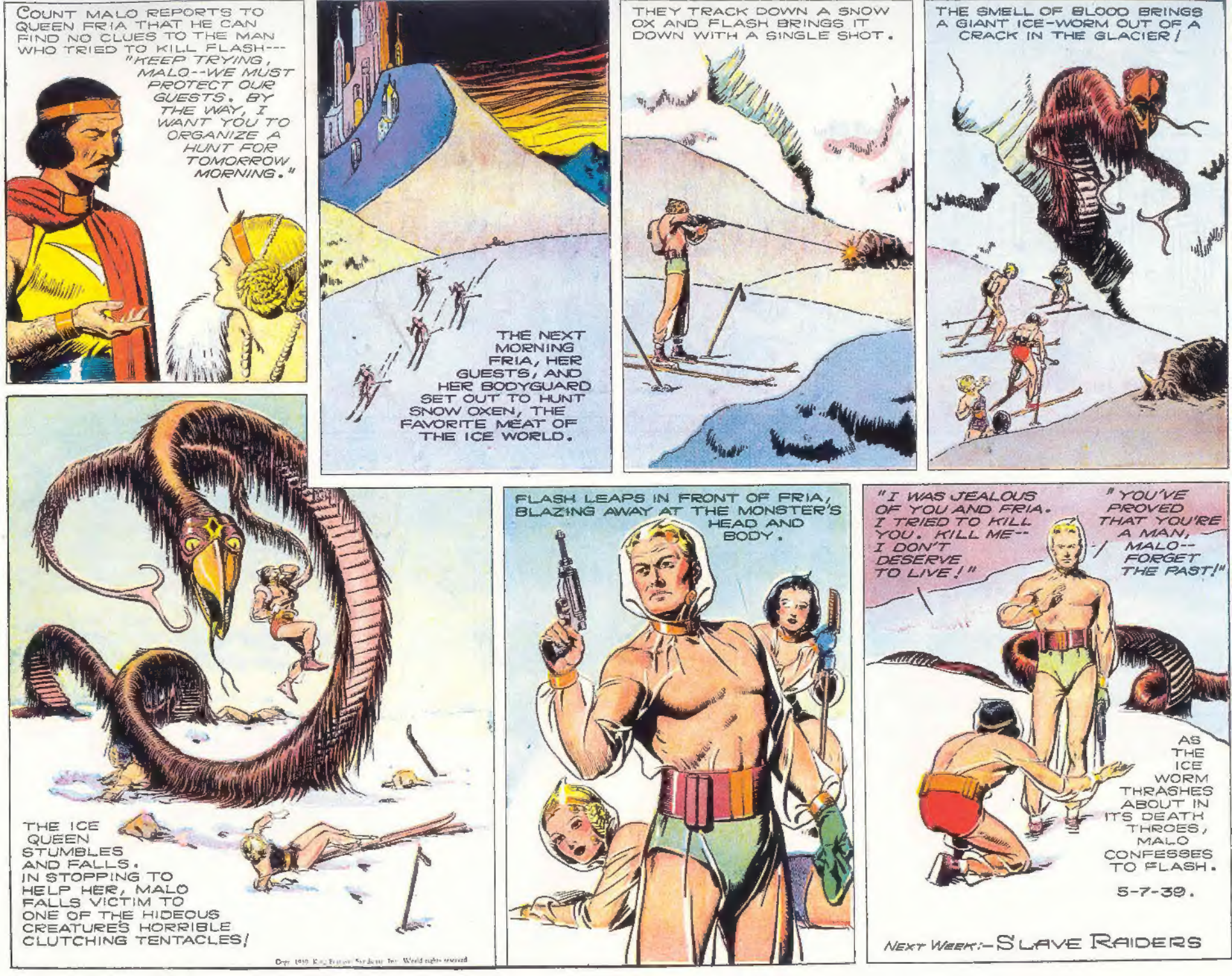
COOL
JEALOUS COUNT MALO AT LAST FINDS FLASH UNGUARDED. AS FLASH AND DALE SWIM IN MID-POOL, HE THROWS THE QUICK-FREEZING LEVER THAT TURNS THE POOL INTO A SKATING RINK.

THE ICE FREEZES TOWARD THE CENTER.
AS FLASH TRIES TO CLIMB ON THE ICE'S EDGE, DALE SINKS, PARALYZED WITH THE COLD!

FLASH DIVES AFTER DALE-- AND THE ICE FREEZES ABOVE THEM, THICKENING FAST.

HOLDING HIS BREATH, FLASH MAKES A DESPERATE EFFORT TO SWIM THROUGH THE WATER OUTLET PIPE, BEFORE THE POOL FREEZES INTO AN ICY COFFIN.


WITH HIS LUNGS ABOUT TO BURST, FLASH PUSHES THROUGH AN INSPECTION MANHOLE IN THE PUMPING STATION---
"QUICK, GET HOT BLANKETS FOR DALE!"
NEXT WEEK:-
THE ICE WORM
4-30-39.


COUNT MALO REPORTS TO QUEEN FRIA THAT HE CAN FIND NO CLUES TO THE MAN WHO TRIED TO KILL FLASH---
"KEEP TRYING, MALO--WE MUST PROTECT OUR GUESTS. BY THE WAY, I WANT YOU TO ORGANIZE A HUNT FOR TOMORROW MORNING."
THE NEXT MORNING FRIA, HER GUESTS, AND HER BODYGUARD SET OUT TO HUNT SNOW OXEN, THE FAVORITE MEAT OF THE ICE WORLD.
THEY TRACK DOWN A SNOW OX AND FLASH BRINGS IT DOWN WITH A SINGLE SHOT.
THE SMELL OF BLOOD BRINGS A GIANT ICE-WORM OUT OF A CRACK IN THE GLACIER!
THE ICE QUEEN STUMBLES AND FALLS. IN STOPPING TO HELP HER, MALO FALLS VICTIM TO ONE OF THE HIDEOUS CREATURES HORRIBLE CLUTCHING TENTACLES!
FLASH LEAPS IN FRONT OF FRIA, BLAZING AWAY AT THE MONSTER'S HEAD AND BODY.
"I WAS JEALOUS OF YOU AND FRIA. I TRIED TO KILL YOU. KILL ME-- I DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE!"
"YOU'VE PROVED THAT YOU'RE A MAN, MALO-- FORGET THE PAST!"
AS THE ICE WORM THRASHES ABOUT IN ITS DEATH THROES, MALO CONFESSES TO FLASH.
5-7-39.
NEXT WEEK:- SLAVE RAIDERS

FROM AMBUSH, A BAND OF HAIRY GIANTS WAITS TO RAID THE REMNANTS OF FLASH'S HUNTING PARTY.

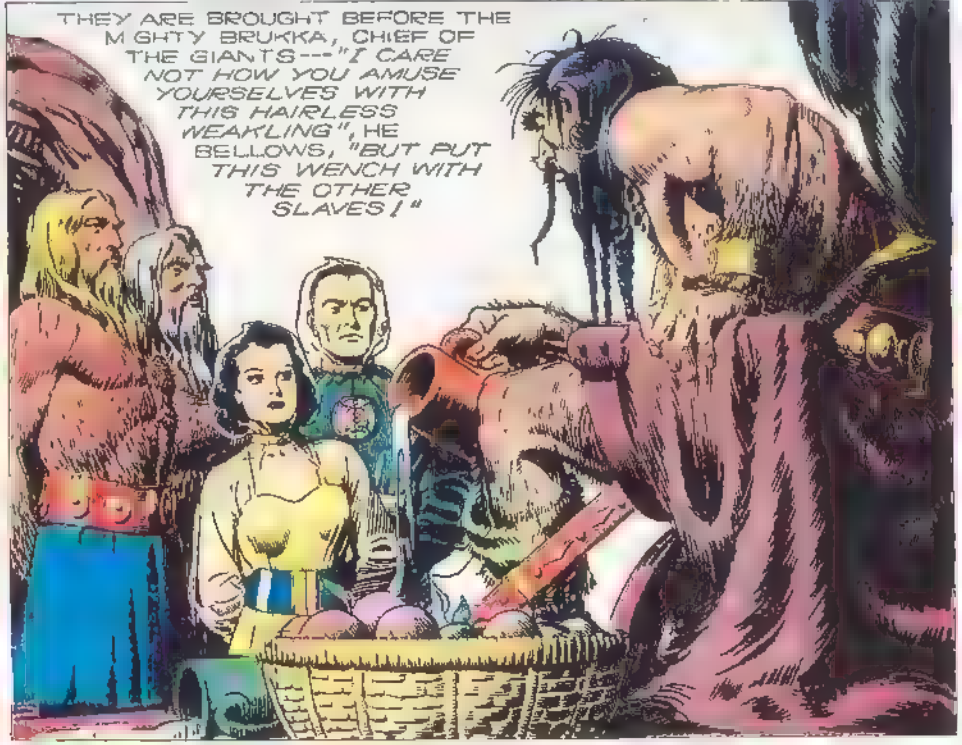
WITH WILD YELLS, THEY CHARGE, SNARING DALE, MALO AND RONAL IN THEIR CASTING NETS---
THE SLAVE RAIDERS DISABLE MOST OF THE SURPRISED HUNTERS. FLASH, DISARMED, FIGHTS LIKE A TIGER.

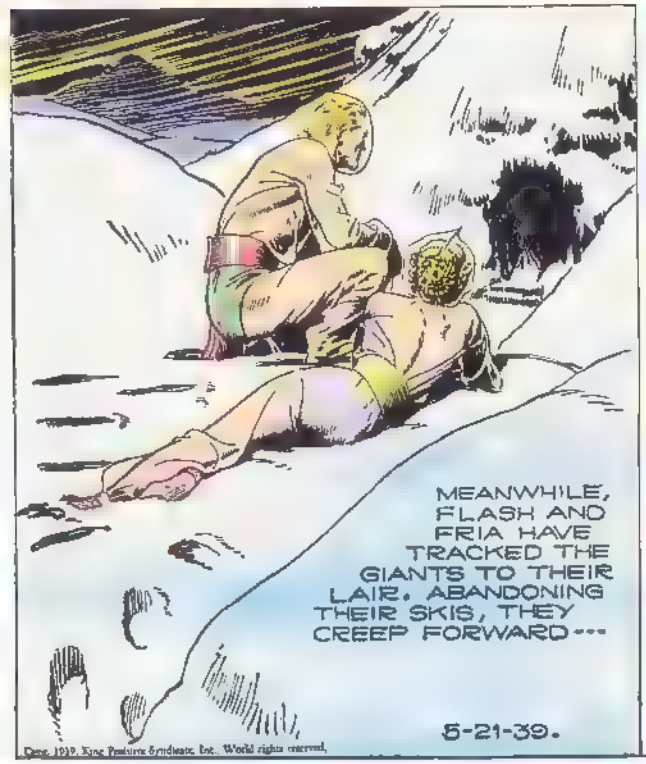
FLASH AND HIS OPPONENT TUMBLE, UNNOTICED, INTO A GULLY. LONG AFTER THE RAIDERS HAVE FLED WITH THEIR NEW SLAVES AND WEAPONS, FLASH AND THE GIANT CONTINUE THEIR TITANIC STRUGGLE. FRIA, HER GUN EMPTY, STANDS BY HELPLESSLY.

BUT FLASH'S DEADLY STRENGTH AND SKILL FINALLY FELL THE GIANT. FLASH RAISES THE BARBARIAN'S CLUB AND SNARLS---"TELL ME--WHERE ARE THEY GOING? HOW MANY ARE THERE OF YOU?"
"TO OUR CAVES BEYOND THE MOUNTAIN," GASPS THE GIANT--- "WE NUMBER FIFTY."

SENDING A WOUNDED SURVIVOR BACK TO THE PALACE FOR AID, QUEEN FRIA INSISTS ON GOING WITH FLASH ON HIS DARING RESCUE MISSION.
SUDDENLY, SHE STOPS AND POINTS--- "LOOK, FLASH-- IS THAT A SENTRY ON GUARD?"
5-14-39.

AS THEY APPROACH THE FIGURE, THEY SEE THAT IT IS MALO--- MALO, RIGID IN DEATH, FROZEN INTO A GHASTLY STATUE!
AT THE FEET OF THE BODY IS A WARNING WHICH READS--- "TURN BACK, LEST YOU, TOO, MEET THIS FATE!"
NEXT WEEK:-
LAND OF THE GIANTS-





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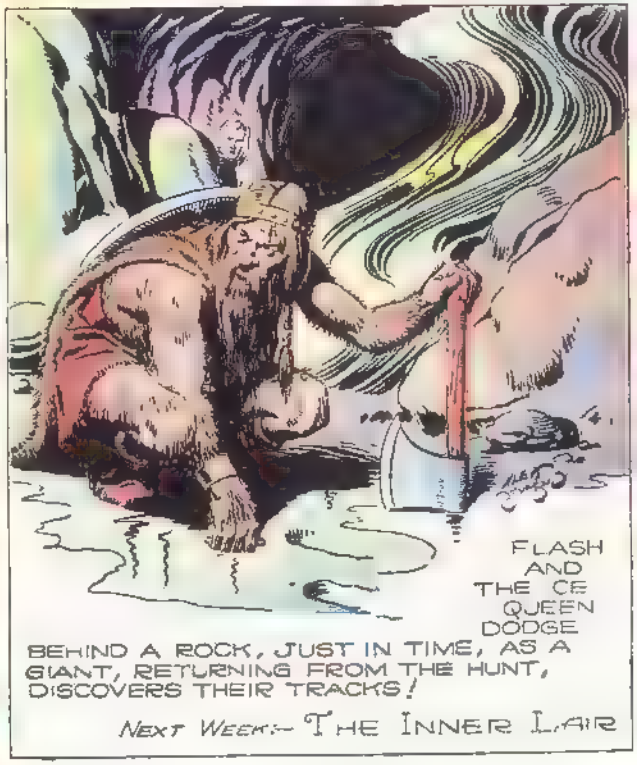
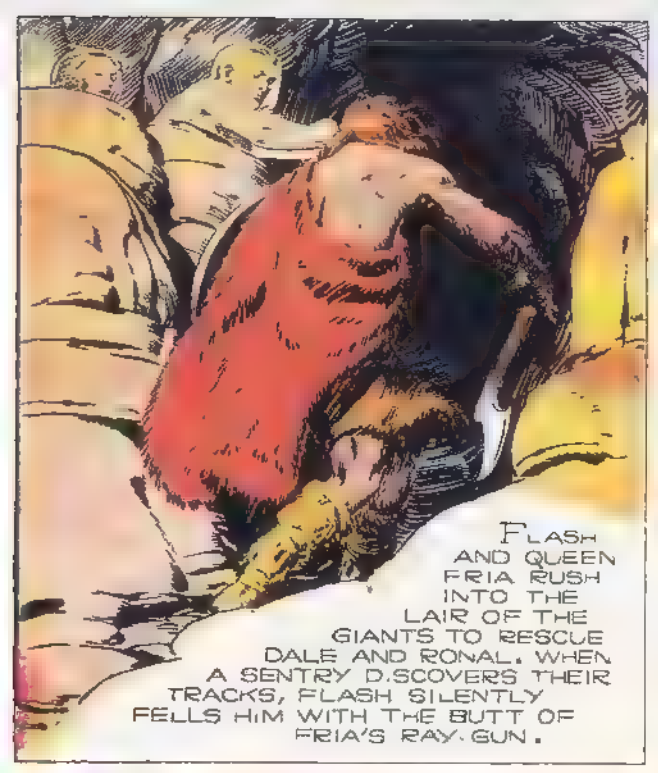
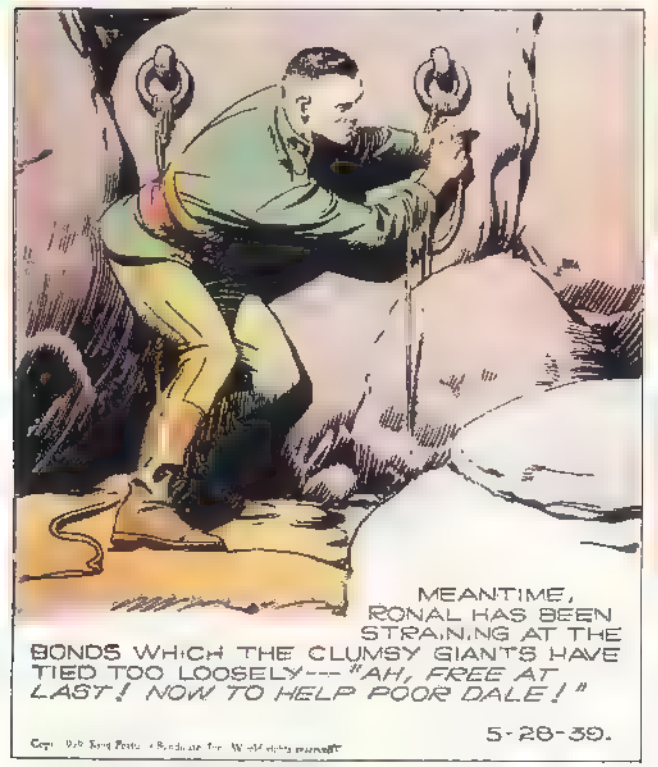



FLASH AND QUEEN FRIA RUSH INTO THE LAIR OF THE GIANTS TO RESCUE DALE AND RONAL. WHEN A SENTRY DISCOVERS THEIR TRACKS, FLASH SILENTLY FELLS HIM WITH THE BUTT OF FRIA'S RAY-GUN.

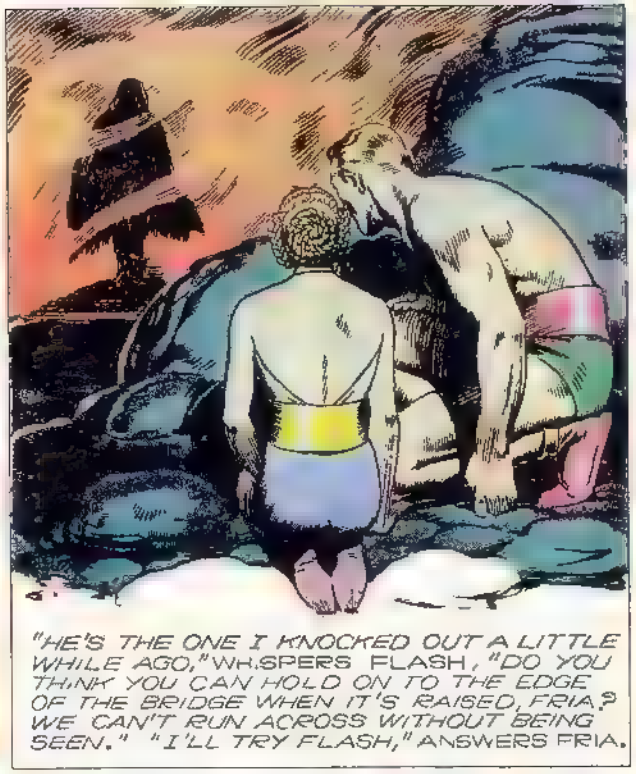
BUT THEY ARE KEPT FROM PENETRATING FARTHER INTO THE CAVES BY A STEAMING CANYON--AND THE DRAWBRIDGE IS UP--TO BE LOWERED ONLY AT THE HAIL OF ANOTHER GIANT.

DALE'S SCREAM BRINGS RONAL, WHO ATTACKS THE GIANT BAREHANDED---
---BUT BRUKKA'S IRON STRENGTH MAKES A TOY OF THE GALLANT PRINCE---"HO, GRUBBA--- CATCH THIS LITTLE PEST AND TIE HIM TIGHTER!"
NEXT WEEK ~
THE FIGHT AT THE BRIDGE ~

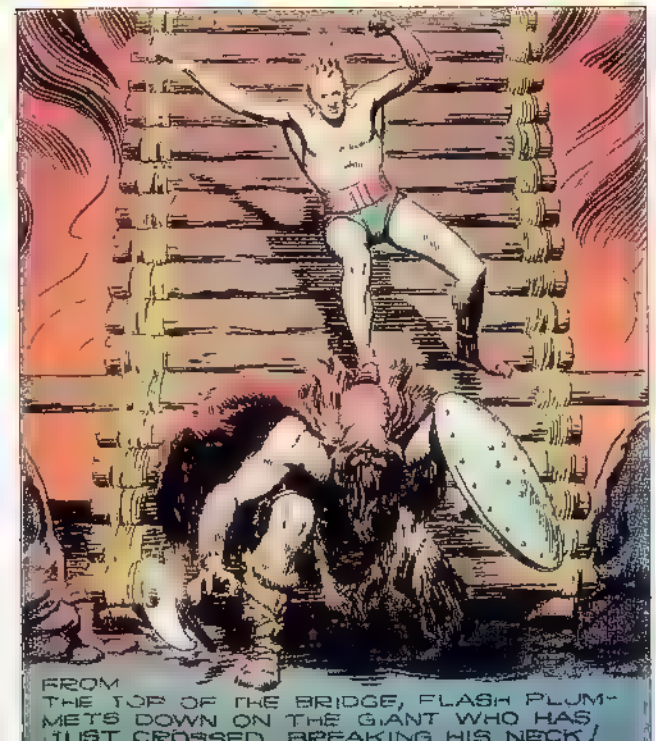

MEANTIME, RONAL HAS BEEN STRAINING AT THE BONDS WHICH THE CLUMSY GIANTS HAVE TIED TOO LOOSELY---"AH, FREE AT LAST! NOW TO HELP POOR DALE!"
5-28-39.

BRUKKA SENDS FOR HIS NEW SLAVE AND CRINGING SLAVE-GIRLS HURRY DALE INTO HIS PRESENCE, BEGGING--"DON'T DISPLEASE THE MASTER--OR HE'LL HAVE US ALL FROZEN!"

DESPERATE TO RESCUE DALE FROM THE GIANTS, FLASH IS BALKED BY A GUARDED DRAWBRIDGE. SUDDENLY, A GIANT COMES RUNNING UP--"HO, GUARD -LET DOWN THE BRIDGE! I'VE BEEN ATTACKED BY A HUMAN!"


"HE'S THE ONE I KNOCKED OUT A LITTLE WHILE AGO," WHISPERS FLASH, "DO YOU THINK YOU CAN HOLD ON TO THE EDGE OF THE BRIDGE WHEN IT'S RAISED, FRIA? WE CAN'T RUN ACROSS WITHOUT BEING SEEN." "I'LL TRY FLASH," ANSWERS FRIA.

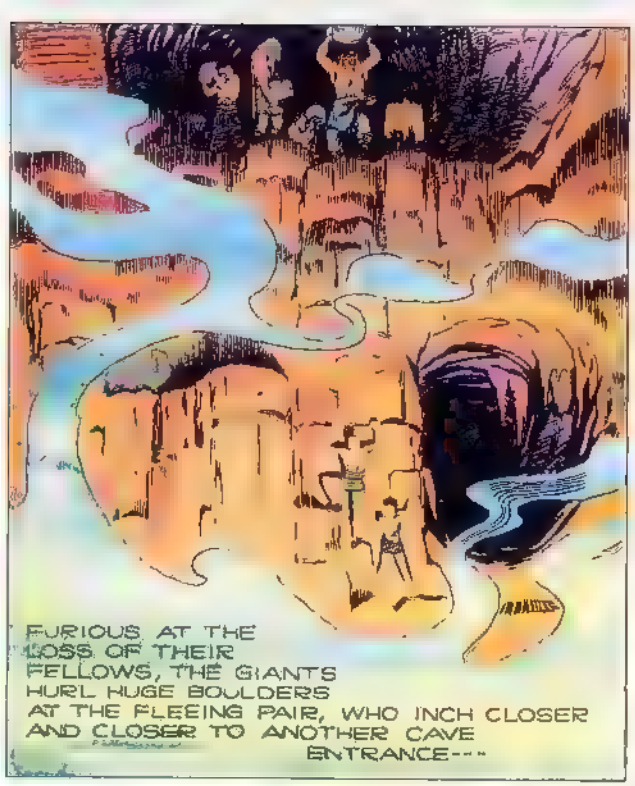
THEY DANGLE OVER THE FIERY CHASM AS THE GUARD RAISES THE DRAWBRIDGE.


FROM THE TOP OF THE BRIDGE, FLASH PLUMMETS DOWN ON THE GIANT WHO HAS JUST CROSSED, BREAKING HIS NECK!

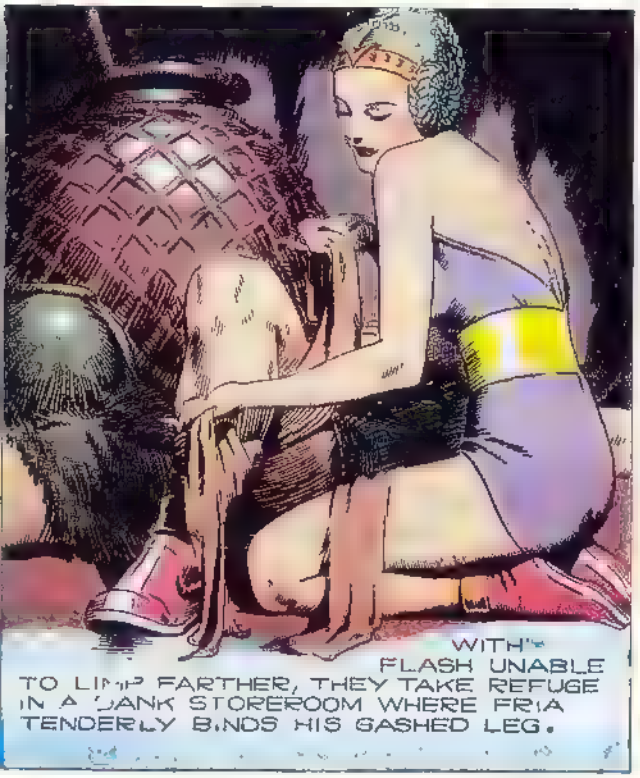
THE BRIDGE-KEEPER LEAVES HIS WINDLASS AND RUSHES AT FLASH, WHO, BY A JIU-JITSU TRICK, USES THE STRENGTH OF THE GIANT'S CHARGE TO HURL HIM, HEAD FIRST, INTO THE ABYSS!
6-4-39.

AT THAT MOMENT FRIA SHOUTS AN ALARM -FOR THE DOOMED GIANT'S SCREAM BRINGS A HORDE OF HIS FELLOWS!
NEXT WEEK --
SAVAGE PURSUIT

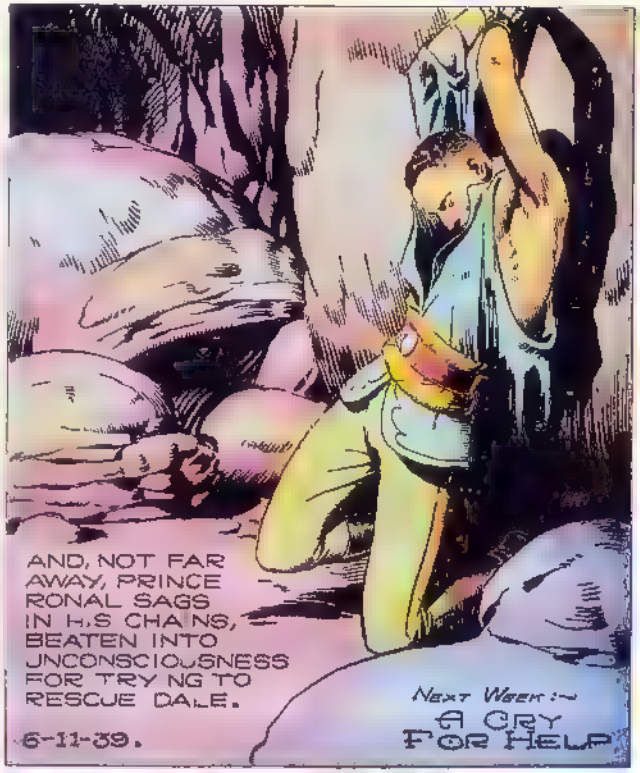
FLASH AND FRIA CRAWL OUT ON THE SHEER FACE OF THE ABYSS, WHERE THE PURSUING GIANTS DISCOVER THEM---


FURIOUS AT THE LOSS OF THEIR FELLOWS, THE GIANTS HURL HUGE BOULDERS AT THE FLEEING PAIR, WHO INCH CLOSER AND CLOSER TO ANOTHER CAVE ENTRANCE---

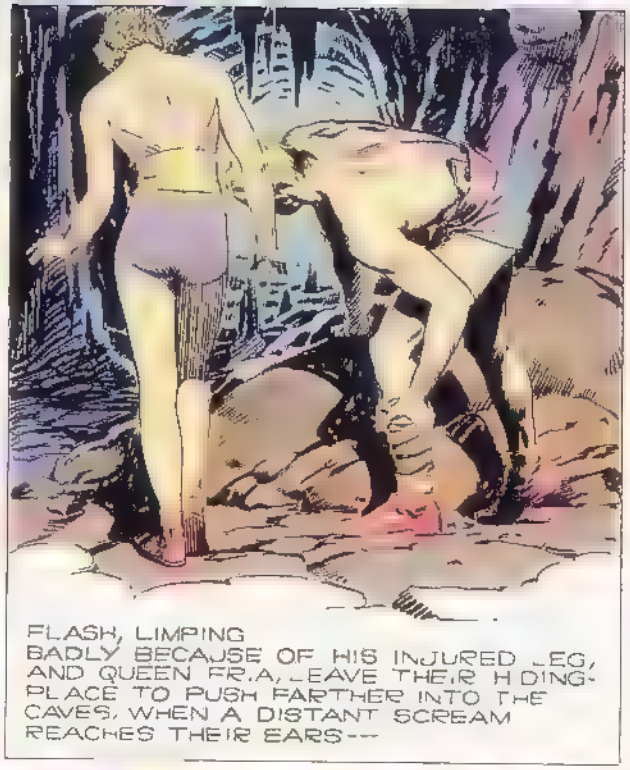
THEY GAIN THE TUNNEL, BUT NOT BEFORE A JAGGED STONE STRIKES FLASH'S LEG A GLANCING BLOW, LEAVING AN UGLY WOUND.


WITH FLASH UNABLE TO LIMP FARTHER, THEY TAKE REFUGE IN A DANK STOREROOM WHERE FRIA TENDERLY BINDS HIS GASHED LEG.

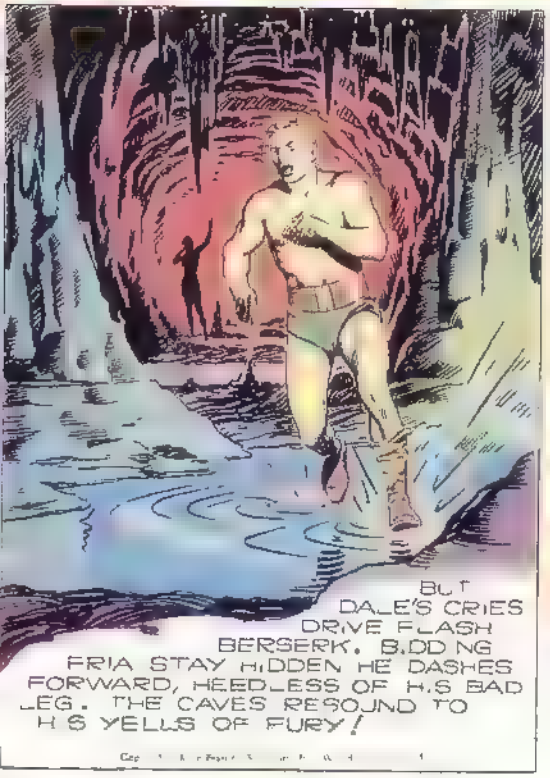
MEANWHILE, CHIEF BRUKKA CONTINUES TO FORCE HIS UNWELCOME ATTENTIONS ON DALE, WHO, DEMURELY, BUT DESPERATELY, PLAYS FOR TIME --


AND, NOT FAR AWAY, PRINCE RONAL SAGS IN HIS CHAINS, BEATEN INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS FOR TRYING TO RESCUE DALE.
6-11-39.
NEXT WEEK:- A CRY FOR HELP

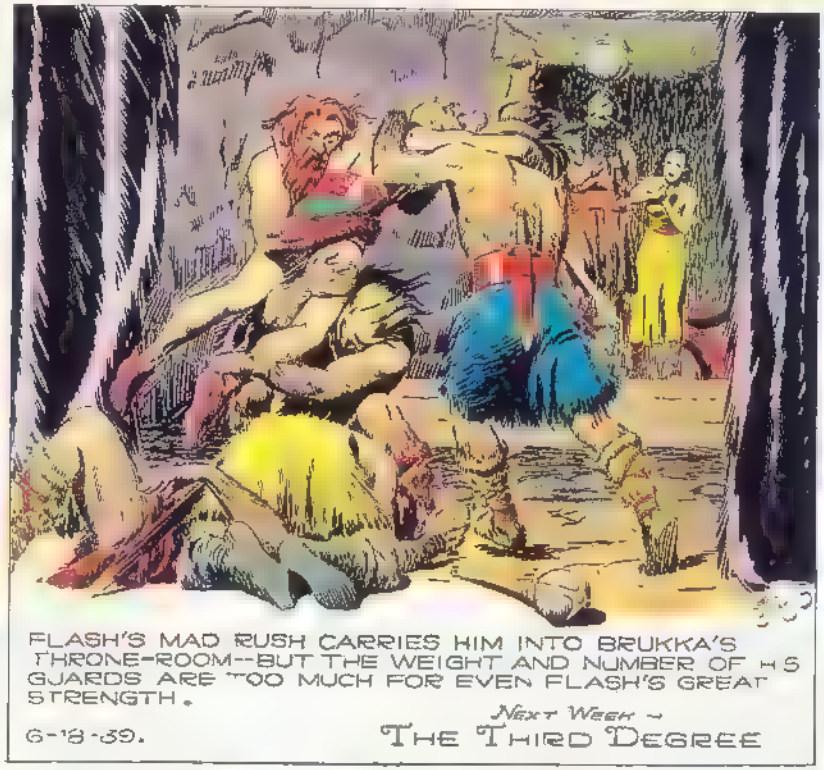
DALE, HOPING FOR A CHANCE TO ESCAPE, TRIES TO VAMP THE GIANT, BRUKKA, BUT HE TERRIFIES HER INTO CRYING FOR HELP.

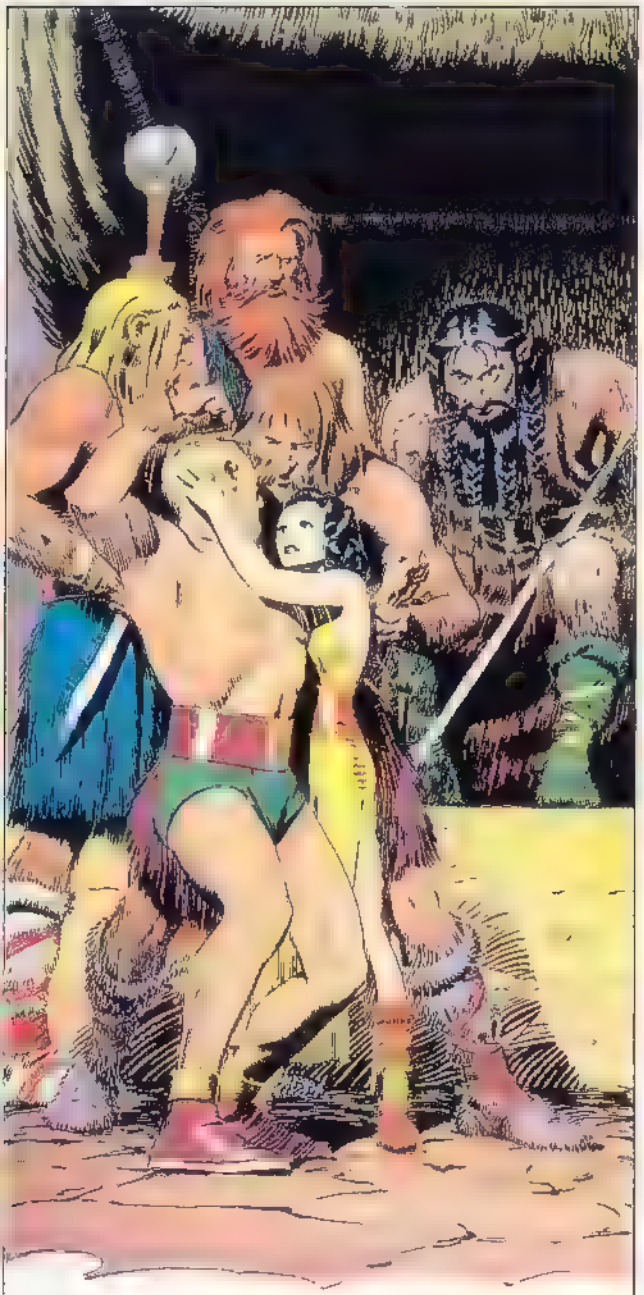

FLASH, LIMPING BADLY BECAUSE OF HIS INJURED LEG, AND QUEEN FRIA, LEAVE THEIR HIDING-PLACE TO PUSH FARTHER INTO THE CAVES, WHEN A DISTANT SCREAM REACHES THEIR EARS---

AGAIN THE SCREAM! FLASH'S MUSCLES GROW TAUT--AND, AT THE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE, FRIA CLUTCHES HIM, PLEADING---"DON'T DO IT, FLASH! DON'T! THEY ARE MANY--YOU'LL BE KILLED!"


BUT DALE'S CRIES DRIVE FLASH BERSERK. BIDDING FRIA STAY HIDDEN HE DASHES FORWARD, HEEDLESS OF HIS BAD LEG. THE CAVES RESOUND TO HIS YELLS OF FURY!

A SENTRY BARS FLASH'S PATH. FLASH TRIES TO SHOOT HIM, BUT HIS PISTOL'S RAY-CHARGE IS EXHAUSTED--SO HE HURLS THE USELESS WEAPON WITH UNERRING AIM!


FLASH'S MAD RUSH CARRIES HIM INTO BRUKKA'S THRONE-ROOM--BUT THE WEIGHT AND NUMBER OF HIS GUARDS ARE TOO MUCH FOR EVEN FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH.
6-18-39.
NEXT WEEK - THE THIRD DEGREE



DAZED AND BATTERED, FLASH S BROUGHT BEFORE BRUKKA, THE G.ANT CHIEF, WHO DEMANDS TO KNOW WHERE FLASH HAS HIDDEN QUEEN FR A. FLASH'S DEFIANT S.LENCE ANGERS THE CHIEFTAIN, WHO SNARLS--

"BEAT HIM UNTIL HE TELLS WHERE THE GIRL IS HIDING!"

6-25-39.

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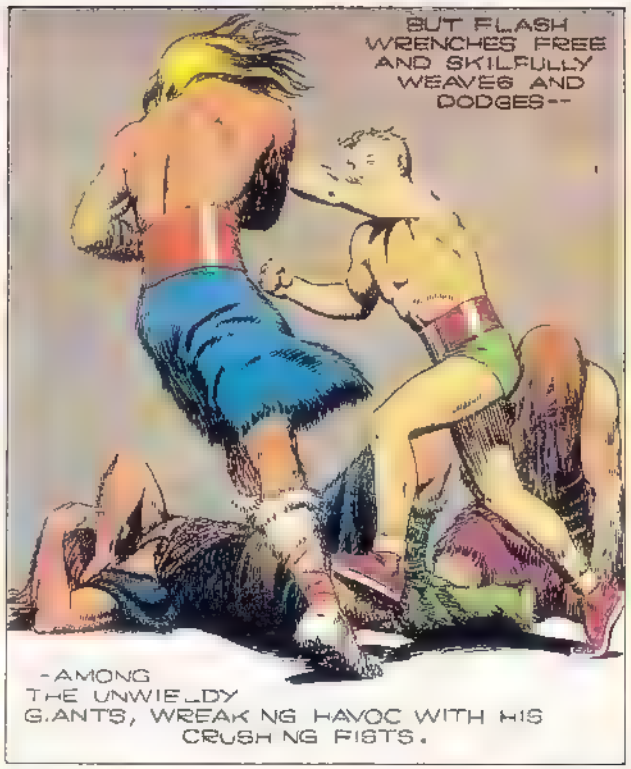
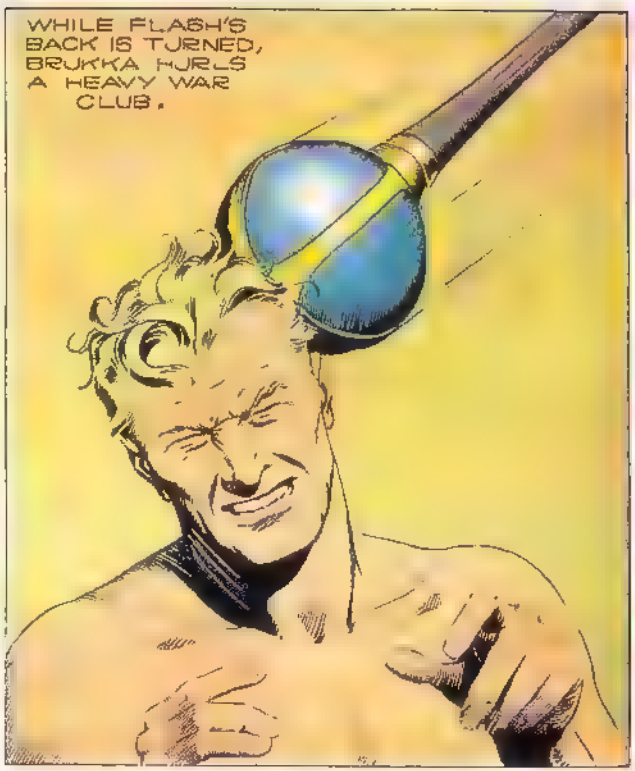
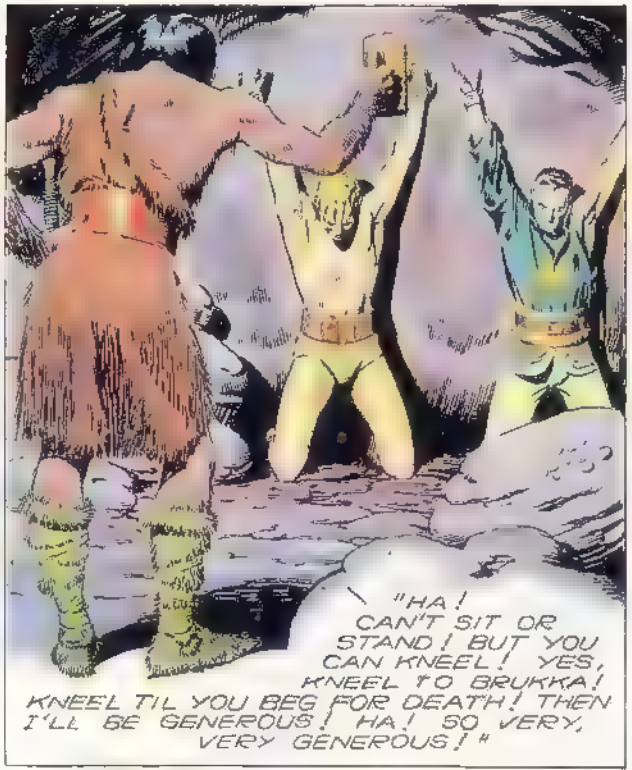
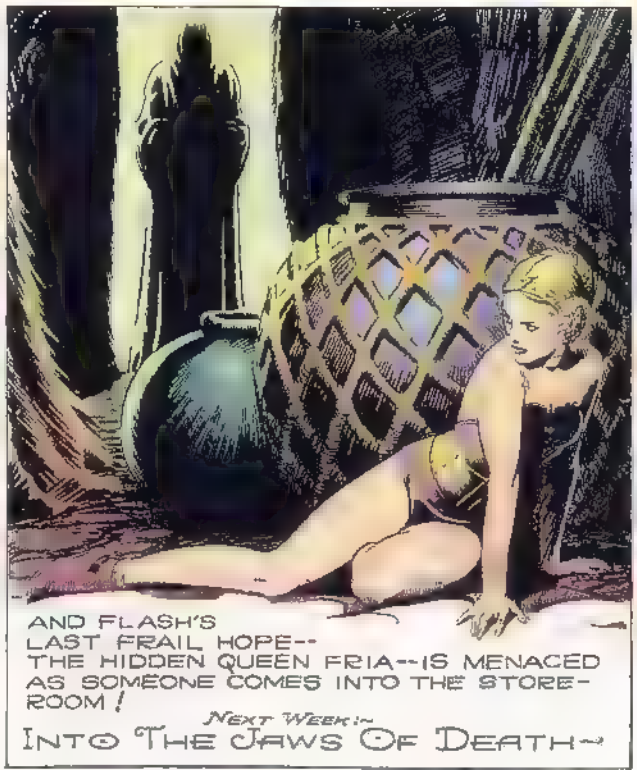




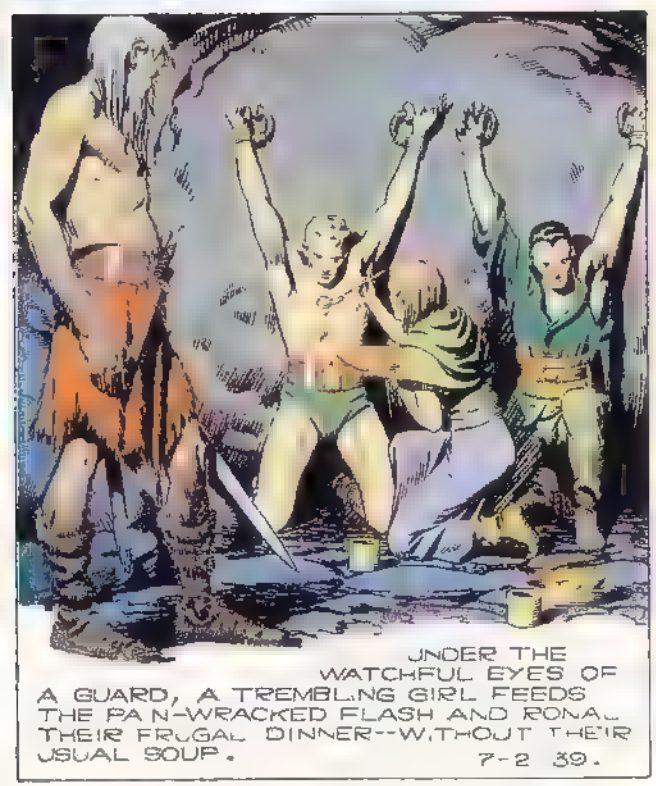




WHEN A SLAVE GIRL COMES INTO HER HIDING-PLACE--THE GIANTS' STORE-ROOM--FRIA SEIZES HER WHISPERING---
"BE STILL--I AM YOUR QUEEN!"

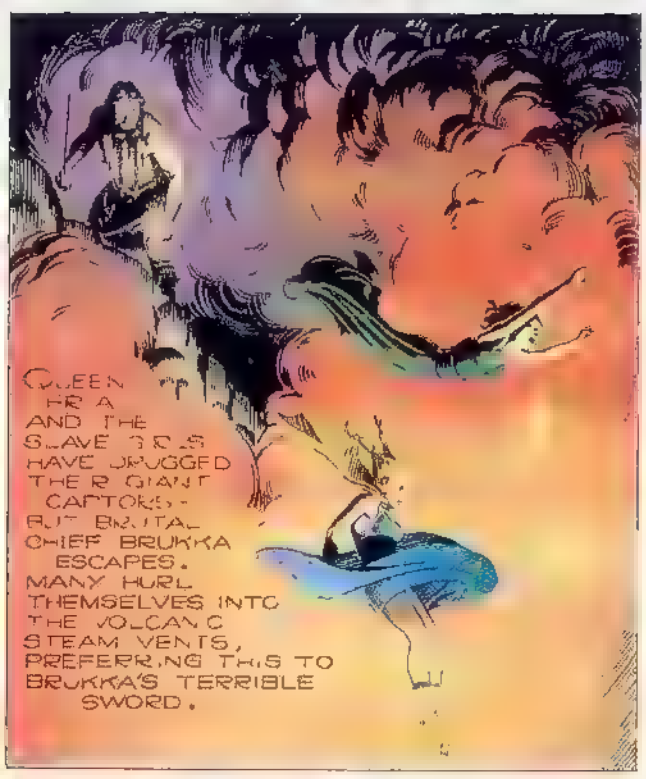
AFTER OBTAINING ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION FROM THE SLAVE GIRL, FRIA CHANGES CLOTHES WITH HER AND TAKES HER PLACE IN THE KITCHEN, TO TRY A DARING SCHEME. TO RESCUE FLASH, DALE AND RONAL.

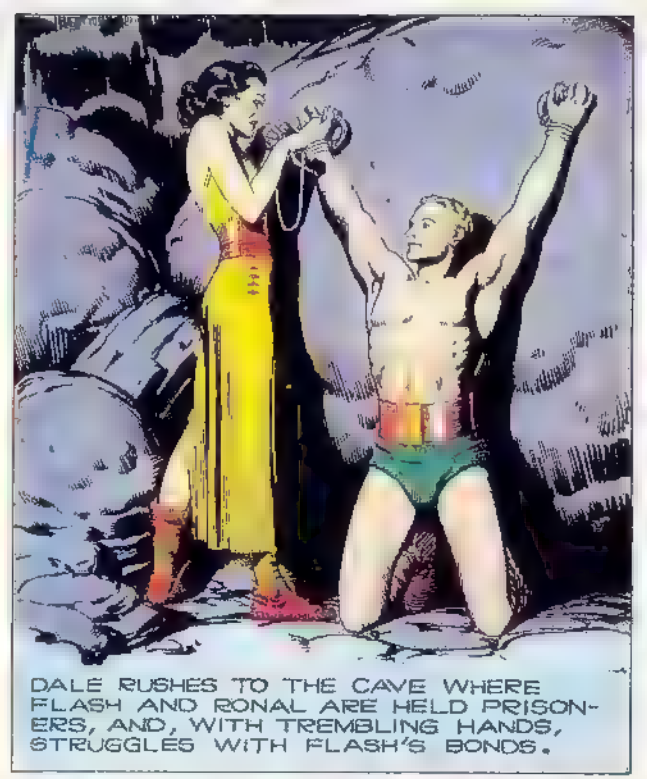
THE QUEEN ENLISTS THE SLAVE GIRLS, HER FORMER SUBJECTS, IN HER BOLD PLAN TO DRUG THE GIANTS' SOUP, NOW COOKING ON THE VOLCANIC STEAM STOVES.

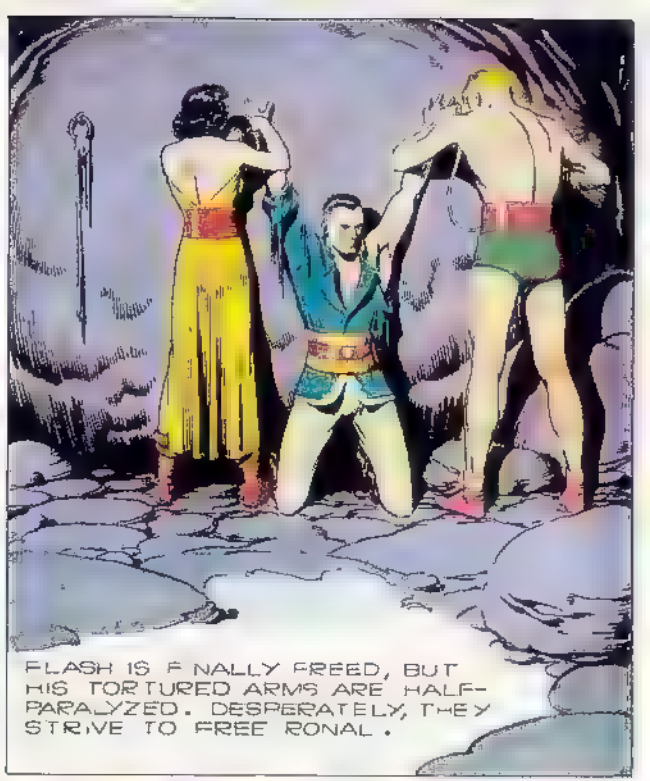

UNDER THE WATCHFUL EYES OF A GUARD, A TREMBLING GIRL FEEDS THE PAIN-WRACKED FLASH AND RONAL THEIR FRUGAL DINNER--WITHOUT THEIR USUAL SOUP.
7-2 39.

IN THE GIANTS' DINING-HALL, FRIA'S HEART SKIPS A BEAT AS BRUKKA SNARLS---
"TAKE AWAY THIS DISHWATER! GIVE ME MY MEAT!"

WHEN HIS DRUGGED COMRADES BEGIN TO PASS OUT, BRUKKA GUESSES THE TRUTH.
"TREACHERY" HE FUMES--- "I'LL KILL EVERY SLAVE IN THE PLACE!"
NEXT WEEK:— THE REIGN OF TERROR—


QUEEN HERA AND THE SLAVE GIRLS HAVE DRUGGED THEIR GIANT CAPTORS--BUT BRUTAL CHIEF BRUKKA ESCAPES. MANY HURL THEMSELVES INTO THE VOLCANIC STEAM VENTS, PREFERRING THIS TO BRUKKA'S TERRIBLE SWORD.


DALE RUSHES TO THE CAVE WHERE FLASH AND RONAL ARE HELD PRISONERS, AND, WITH TREMBLING HANDS, STRUGGLES WITH FLASH'S BONDS.


FLASH IS FINALLY FREED, BUT HIS TORTURED ARMS ARE HALF-PARALYZED. DESPERATELY, THEY STRIVE TO FREE RONAL.

UNARMED, AND NOT DARING TO LEAVE DALE UNPROTECTED, FLASH AND RONAL FIGHT DOWN THEIR DESIRE TO AID THE SLAVE GIRLS, AND MAKE A DASH FOR FREEDOM.
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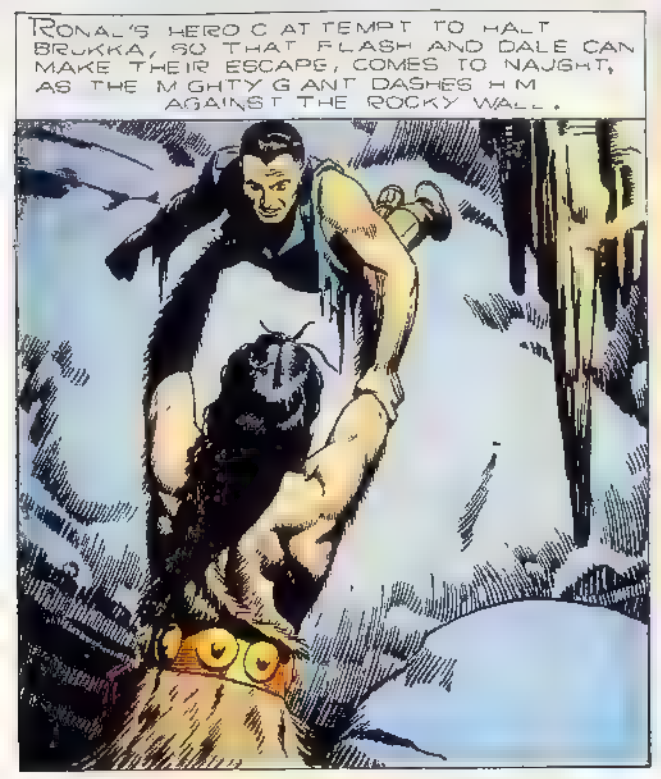
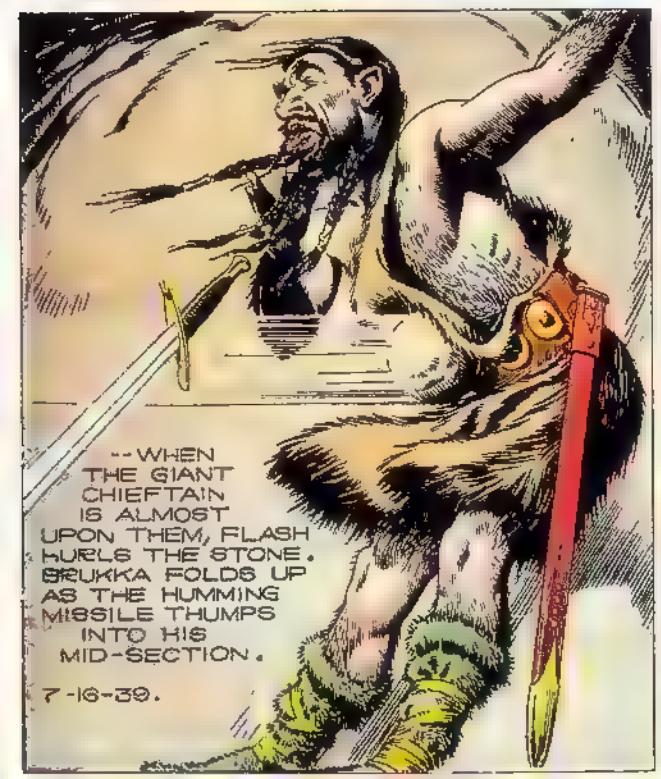
BUT RONAL DROPS SLOWLY BEHIND, AND, WATCHING HIS CHANCE, DODGES BEHIND A STALAGMITE--A DARING AND HEROIC PLAN FORMING IN HIS MIND.
7-9-39.

AS A MAGNIFICENT GESTURE TO SPEED DALE--THE GIRL HE SILENTLY AND HOPELESSLY LOVES--ON HER WAY TO FREEDOM, RONAL HURLS HIMSELF ON THE PURSUING GIANT CHIEFTAIN!
NEXT WEEK:— THE VOLCANO'S POWER


RONAL'S HERO C ATTEMPT TO HALT BRUKKA, SO THAT FLASH AND DALE CAN MAKE THEIR ESCAPE, COMES TO NAUGHT, AS THE M GHTY G ANT DASHES H M AGAINST THE ROCKY WALL.

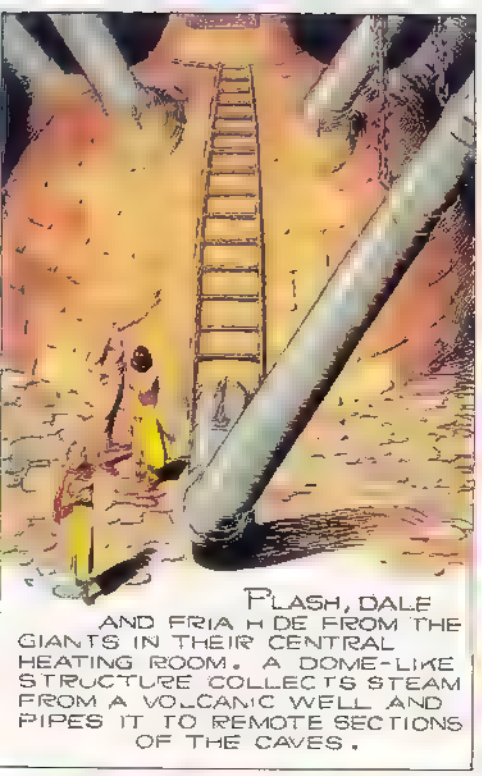
M SS NG RONAL, FLASH AND DALE PAUSE IN THEIR FL GHT. "STRANGE", MUTTERS FLASH, "EITHER HE WAS TOO WEAK TO KEEP UP WITH US, OR HE WAS AMBUSHED! LET'S GO BACK A BIT."

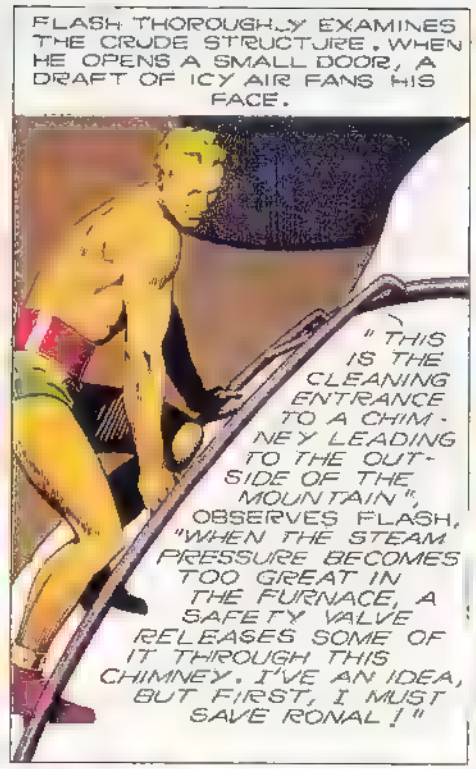
ROUND NG A CORNER, HEY FACE THE ONRUSH NG BRUKKA WHO HOWLS N BLOODTH RSTY GLEE AT SIGHT OF HIS PREY. FLASH PICKS UP A HEAVY STONE--

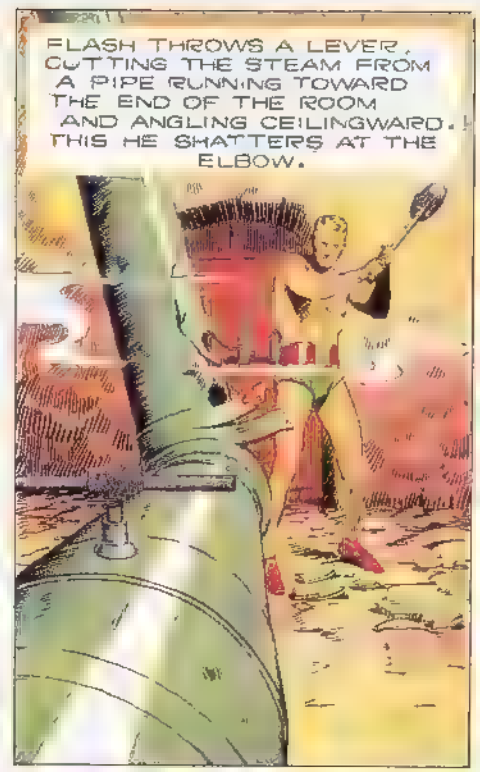

--WHEN THE GIANT CHIEFTAIN IS ALMOST UPON THEM, FLASH HURLS THE STONE. BRUKKA FOLDS UP AS THE HUMMING MISSILE THUMPS INTO HIS MID-SECTION.
7-16-39.

BUT OTHER GIANTS, RECOVERED FROM THE SLEEPING POTION, TAKE UP THE FUG.TIVES' TRAIL.

AS FLASH AND DALE CONT.NUE THE R NOW HOPELESS F GHT, QUEEN FRIA SUDDENLY APPEARS IN THE ENTRANCE TO THE G ANTS' CENTRAL POWER-ROOM. SHE CALLS --'QUICK--IN HERE!"
NEXT WEEK ~ LIVE STEAM

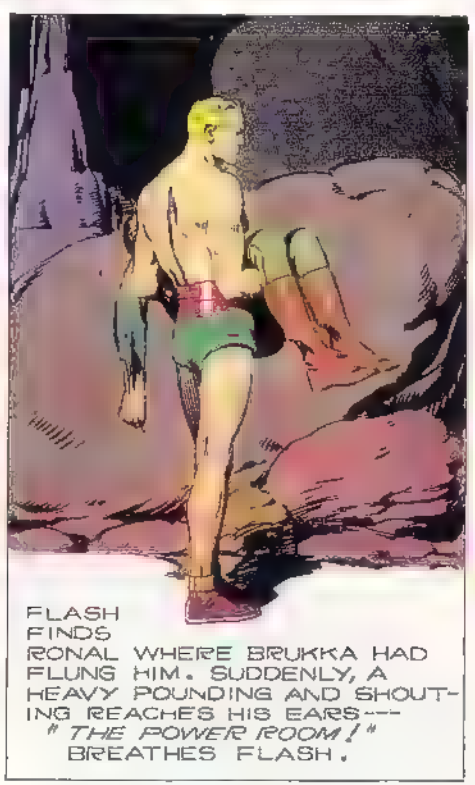

PLASH, DALE AND FRIA H DE FROM THE GIANTS IN THEIR CENTRAL HEATING ROOM. A DOME-LIKE STRUCTURE COLLECTS STEAM FROM A VOLCANIC WELL AND PIPES IT TO REMOTE SECTIONS OF THE CAVES.


FLASH THOROUGHLY EXAMINES THE CRUDE STRUCTURE. WHEN HE OPENS A SMALL DOOR, A DRAFT OF ICY AIR FANS HIS FACE.
" THIS IS THE CLEANING ENTRANCE TO A CHIMNEY LEADING TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN", OBSERVES FLASH, "WHEN THE STEAM PRESSURE BECOMES TOO GREAT IN THE FURNACE, A SAFETY VALVE RELEASES SOME OF IT THROUGH THIS CHIMNEY. I'VE AN IDEA, BUT FIRST, I MUST SAVE RONAL!"


FLASH THROWS A LEVER, CUTTING THE STEAM FROM A PIPE RUNNING TOWARD THE END OF THE ROOM AND ANGLING CEILINGWARD. THIS HE SHATTERS AT THE ELBOW.

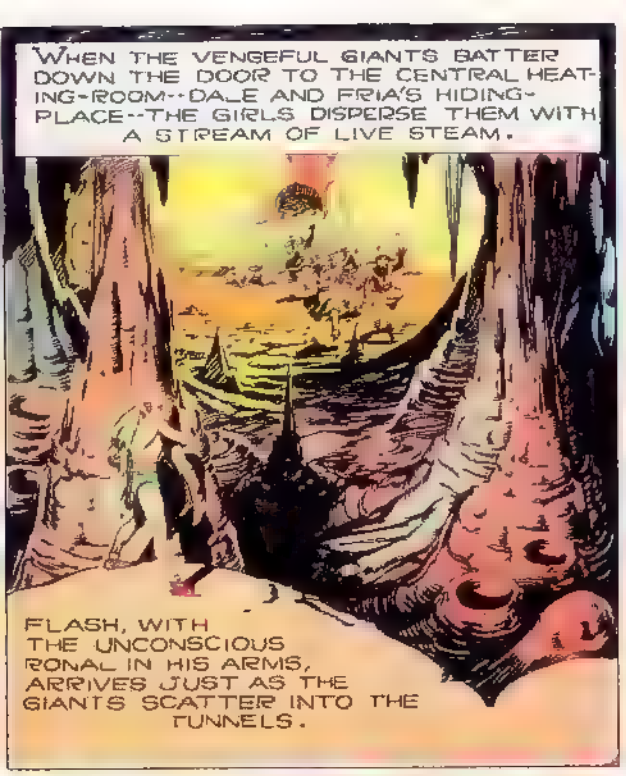
AFTER HURRIED INSTRUCTIONS TO DALE AND FRIA, HE UNBOLTS THE DOOR TO THE POWER ROOM, AND SEEING NO GIANTS, DASHES INTO A TUNNEL.

HE CLAMBERS UP AND BEHIND A GREAT STALAGMITE JUST AS A HOWLING BAND OF GIANTS, LED BY MIGHTY BRUKKA, DASHES PAST.

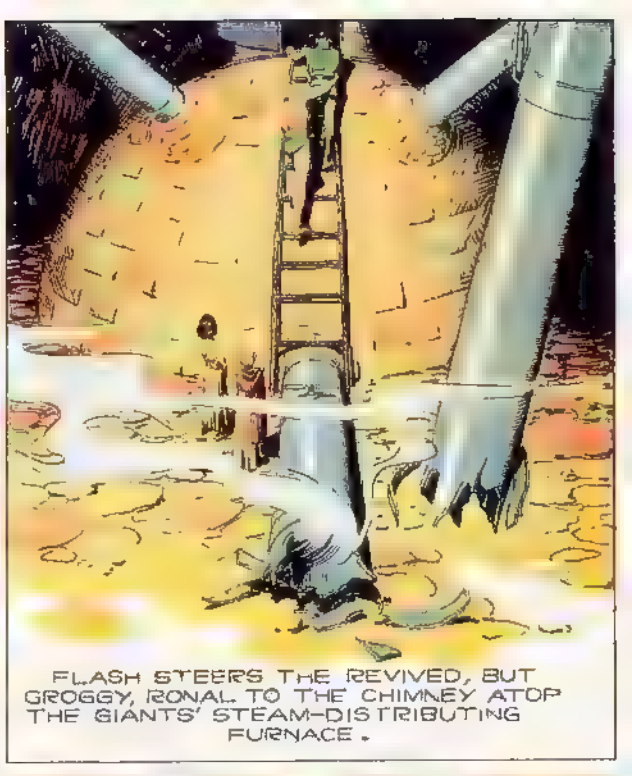

FLASH FINDS RONAL WHERE BRUKKA HAD FLUNG HIM. SUDDENLY, A HEAVY POUNDING AND SHOUTING REACHES HIS EARS---
" THE POWER ROOM!" BREATHES FLASH.

AS THE DOOR TO THE POWER ROOM GOES DOWN UNDER THE GIANTS' BLOWS--
7-23-39.

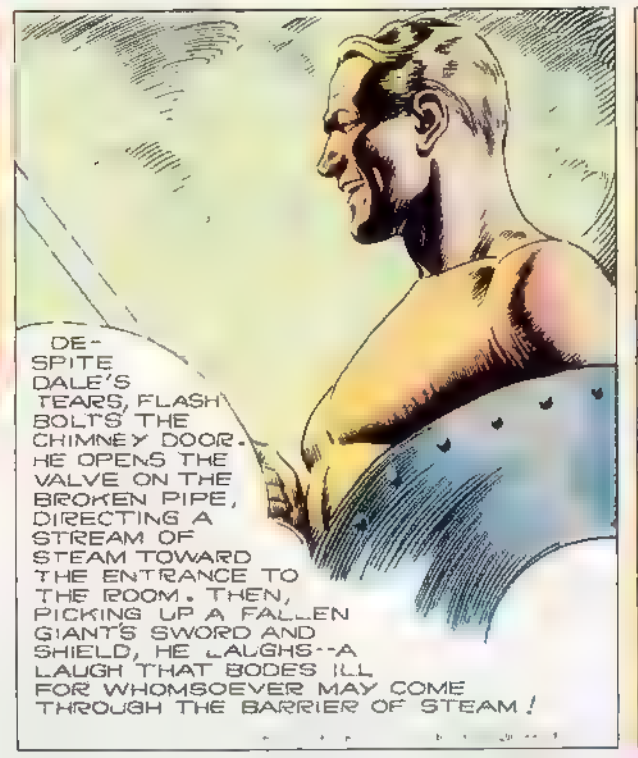
--DALE AND FRIA, OBEYING FLASH'S ORDERS, THROW THE LEVER ON THE SHATTERED PIPE AND THE GIANTS ARE HURLED BACK BY A ROARING STREAM OF LIVE STEAM!
NEXT WEEK.-
HEROIC SACRIFICE~

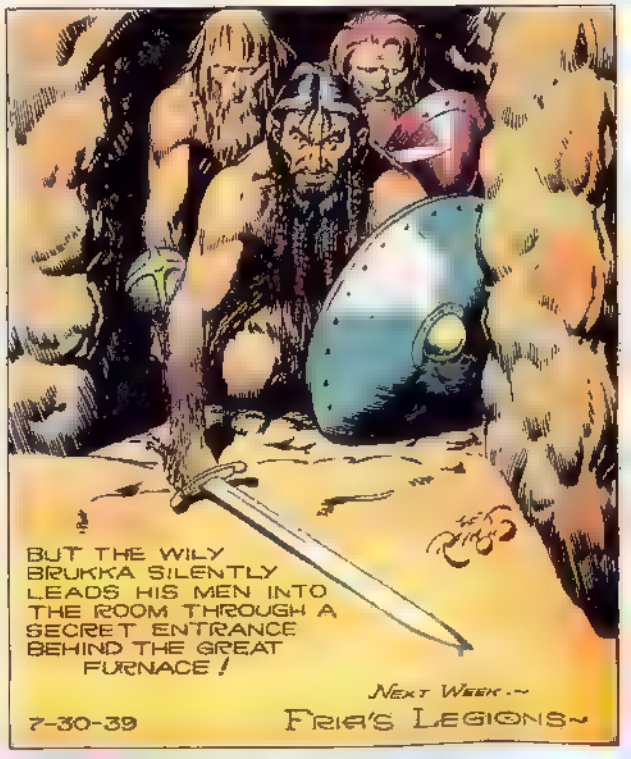

WHEN THE VENGEFUL GIANTS BATTER DOWN THE DOOR TO THE CENTRAL HEATING-ROOM--DALE AND FRIA'S HIDING-PLACE--THE GIRLS DISPERSE THEM WITH A STREAM OF LIVE STEAM.
FLASH, WITH THE UNCONSCIOUS RONAL IN HIS ARMS, ARRIVES JUST AS THE GIANTS SCATTER INTO THE TUNNELS.

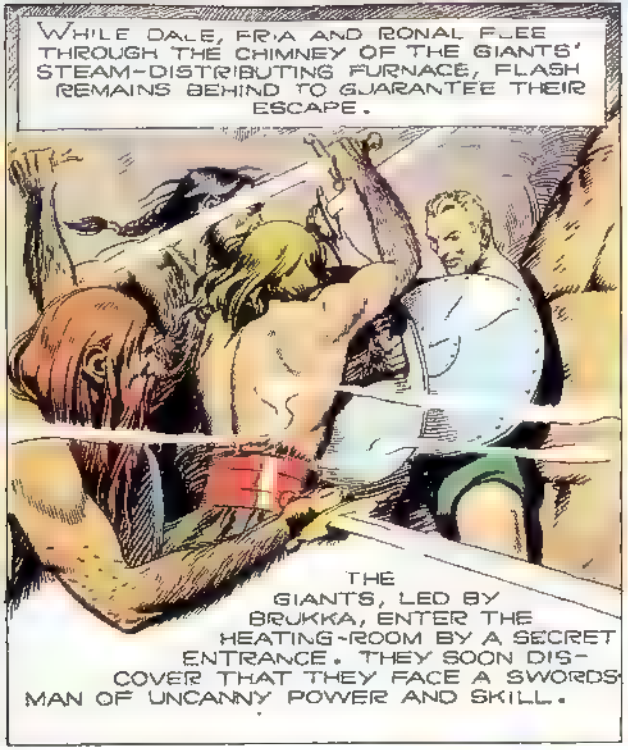
WHILE DALE STANDS WATCH AGAINST THE GIANTS' RETURN, FLASH AND FRIA WORK OVER THE BATTERED PRINCE. FINALLY, RONAL SIGHS--HIS EYELIDS FLICKER--


FLASH STEERS THE REVIVED, BUT GROGGY, RONAL TO THE CHIMNEY ATOP THE GIANTS' STEAM-DISTRIBUTING FURNACE.

DALE TURNS TO HELP FLASH THROUGH THE OPENING. HE KISSES HER HAND, SAYING--- "IF I GO WITH YOU NOW, THE GIANTS WOULD OPEN THE SAFETY VALVE INTO THIS CHIMNEY AND BOIL US ALL ALIVE! I'VE GOT TO STAY BEHIND!"


DE-SPITE DALE'S TEARS, FLASH BOLTS THE CHIMNEY DOOR. HE OPENS THE VALVE ON THE BROKEN PIPE, DIRECTING A STREAM OF STEAM TOWARD THE ENTRANCE TO THE ROOM. THEN, PICKING UP A FALLEN GIANT'S SWORD AND SHIELD, HE LAUGHS--A LAUGH THAT BODES ILL FOR WHOMSOEVER MAY COME THROUGH THE BARRIER OF STEAM!


BUT THE WILY BRUKKA SILENTLY LEADS HIS MEN INTO THE ROOM THROUGH A SECRET ENTRANCE BEHIND THE GREAT FURNACE!
NEXT WEEK--
FRIA'S LEGIONS~
7-30-39


WHILE DALE, FRIA AND RONAL FLEE THROUGH THE CHIMNEY OF THE GIANTS' STEAM-DISTRIBUTING FURNACE, FLASH REMAINS BEHIND TO GUARANTEE THEIR ESCAPE.
THE GIANTS, LED BY BRUKKA, ENTER THE HEATING-ROOM BY A SECRET ENTRANCE. THEY SOON DISCOVER THAT THEY FACE A SWORDSMAN OF UNCANNY POWER AND SKILL.

WHILE, FAR BELOW THEM, FLASH FIGHTS AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS, HIS FRIENDS EMERGE FROM THE CHIMNEY TO THE MOUNTAINSIDE. WITH LITTLE PROTECTION AGAINST THE FIERCE COLD, THEIR DEATH, ALSO, IS BUT A MATTER OF TIME.

DALE, HYSTERICAL WITH GRIEF, TRIES TO RE-ENTER THE CHIMNEY.
"LET ME GO!" SHE SOBS, "I'M GOING BACK TO HIM--HE CAN'T DIE ALONE! IF FLASH DIES, I WANT TO DIE WITH HIM!"
"WAIT!" CRIES FRIA, "LOOK! LOOK! WE'RE SAVED! OH, DARLING--WE'RE SAVED!"

A STRANGELY MAGNIFICENT SIGHT MEETS DALE'S TEAR-DIMMED EYES--FOR, SWEEPING TOWARD THEM, ACROSS THE VALLEY, IS QUEEN FRIA'S CRACK SNOW-BIRD LANCERS.
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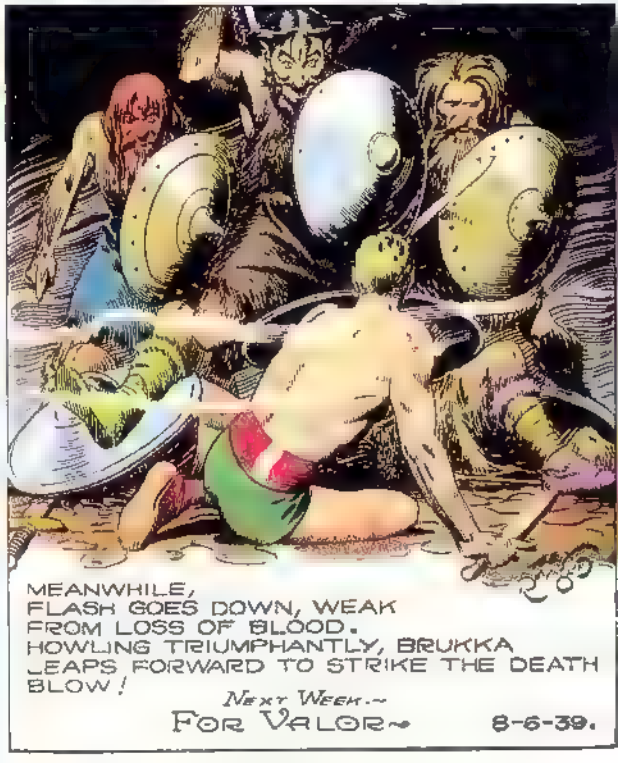
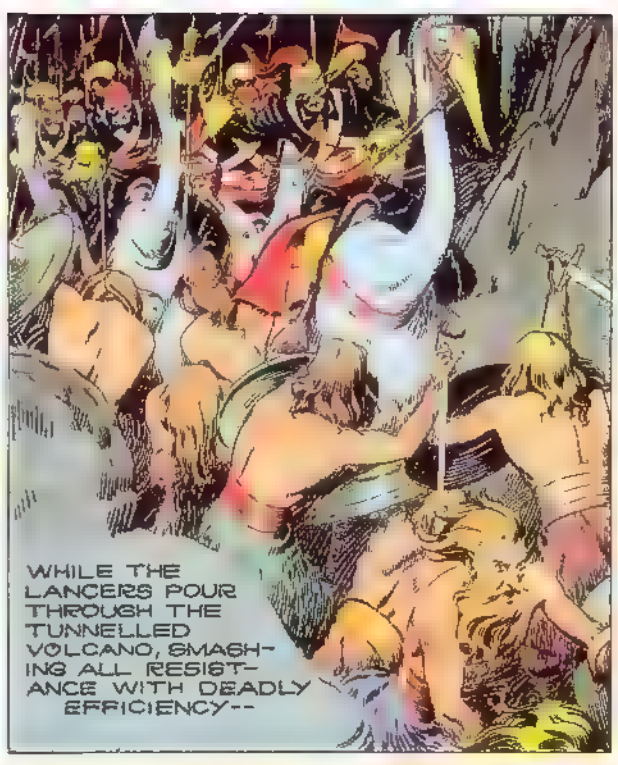
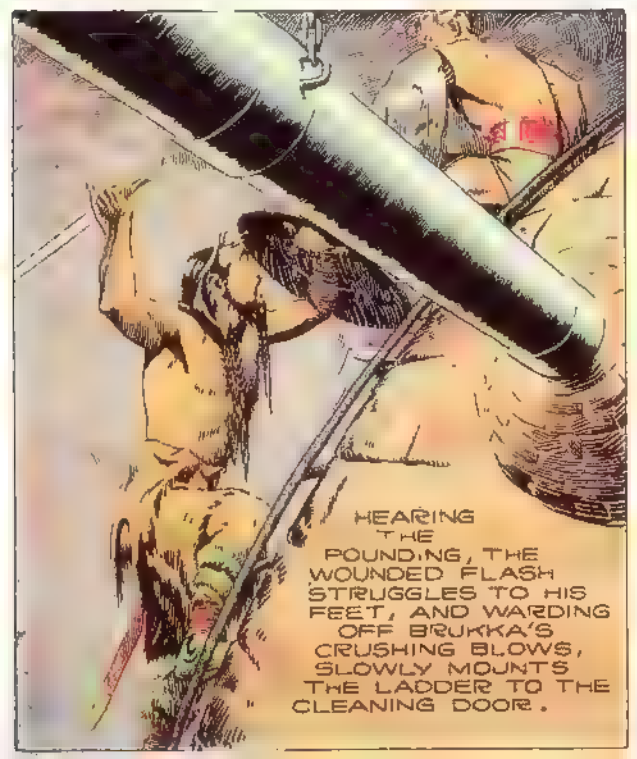
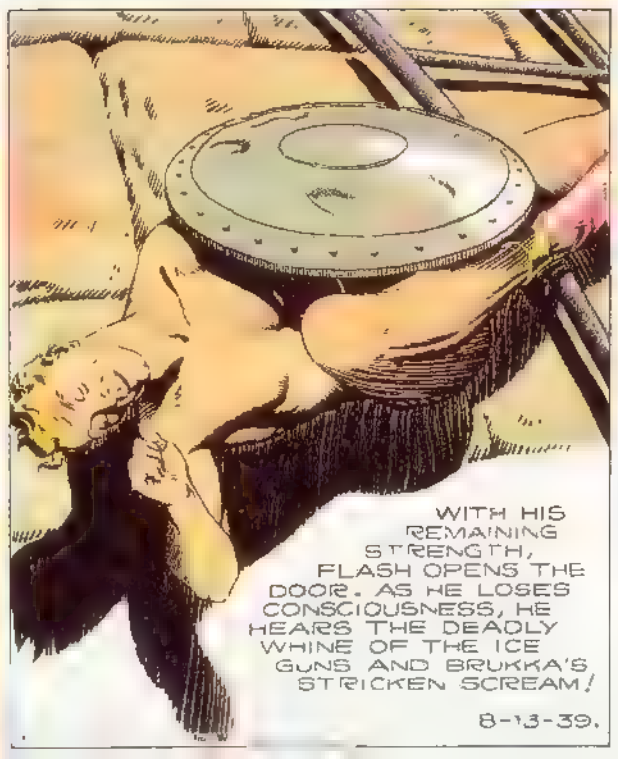

MEANWHILE, FLASH GOES DOWN, WEAK FROM LOSS OF BLOOD. HOWLING TRIUMPHANTLY, BRUKKA LEAPS FORWARD TO STRIKE THE DEATH BLOW!
NEXT WEEK:-
FOR VALOR~
8-6-39.

AS FLASH, SINGLE HANDED, HOLDS OFF THE GIANTS, HIS FRIENDS ESCAPE TO THE OUTSIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN, JUST IN TIME TO WITNESS THE ARRIVAL OF FRIA'S PROUD SNOWBIRD LANCERS.
THE COMMANDER REPORTS TO HIS QUEEN, WHO ORDERS--"I WANT FLASH GORDON RESCUED AT ALL COST. SEND TWO MEN DOWN THE CHIMNEY. ATTACK THE MAIN ENTRANCE WITH YOUR FULL SQUADRON!"


WHILE THE LANCERS POUR THROUGH THE TUNNELLED VOLCANO, SMASHING ALL RESISTANCE WITH DEADLY EFFICIENCY--

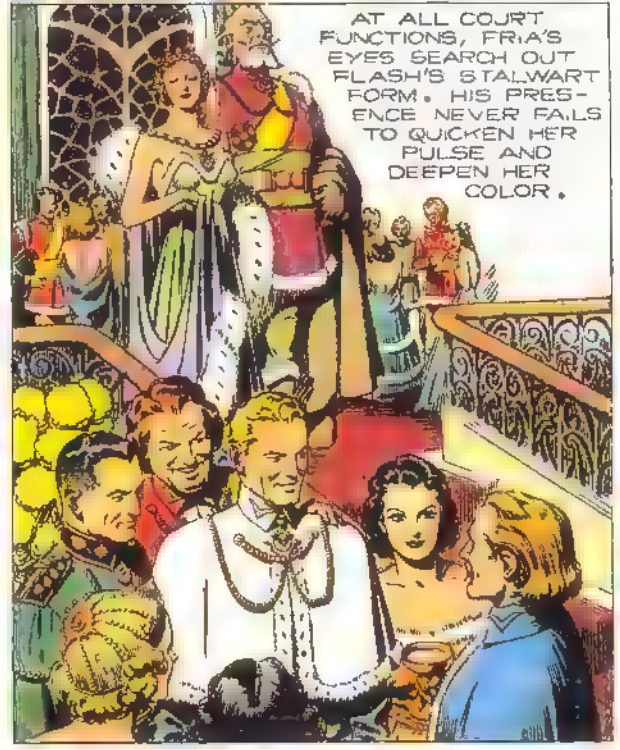
--TWO TROOPERS DESCEND THE CHIMNEY TO THE DOOR ATOP THE GIANTS' FURNACE--
--FINDING IT BOLTED FROM WITHIN, THEY POUND FURIOUSLY.


HEARING THE POUNDING, THE WOUNDED FLASH STRUGGLES TO HIS FEET, AND WARDING OFF BRUKKA'S CRUSHING BLOWS, SLOWLY MOUNTS THE LADDER TO THE CLEANING DOOR.

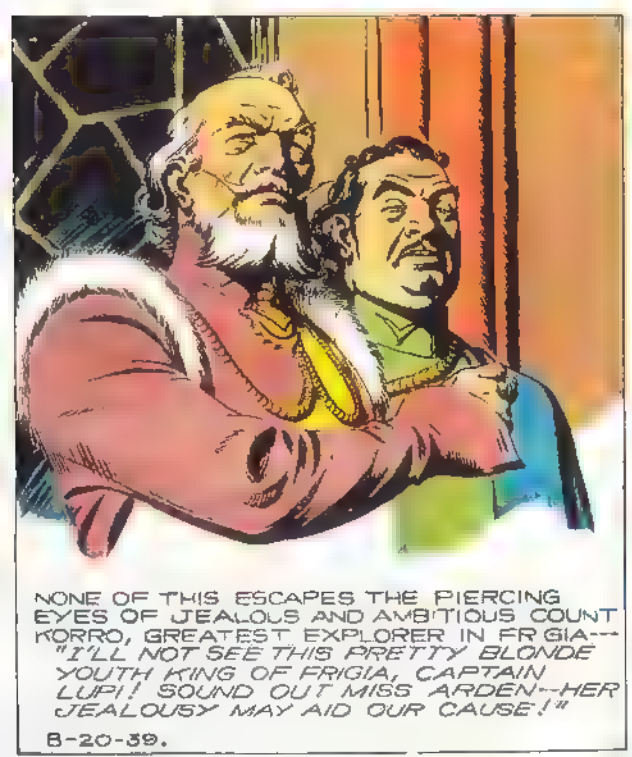

WITH HIS REMAINING STRENGTH, FLASH OPENS THE DOOR. AS HE LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS, HE HEARS THE DEADLY WHINE OF THE ICE GUNS AND BRUKKA'S STRICKEN SCREAM!
8-13-39.

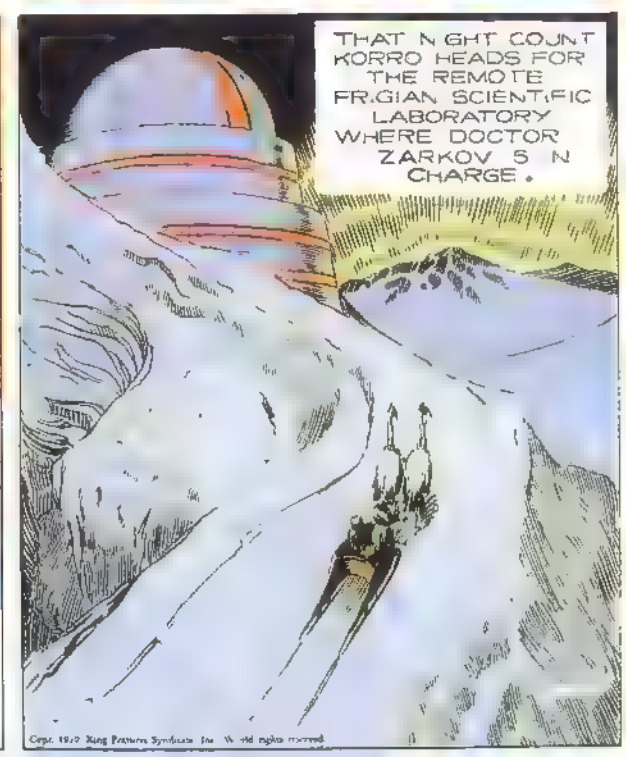
MUCH LATER, QUEEN FRIA PLACES HER CORONET ON FLASH'S HEAD. THEN, KISSING HIS BROW, SHE UTTERS THE MOST COVETED WORDS IN THE LAND--"ARISE, FLASH GORDON, COUNT OF FRIGIA!"
NEXT WEEK
BEHIND PALACE WALLS

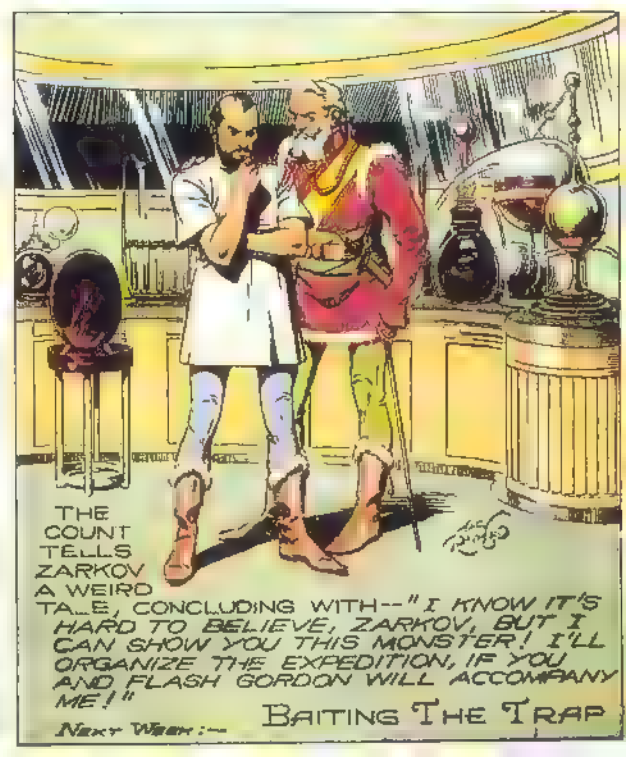
FOR HIS HEROIC ROLE IN SAVING DALE, FRIA AND RONAL FROM THE GIANT BARBARIANS, THE GRATEFUL QUEEN HAS ELEVATED FLASH TO THE FRIGIAN NOBILITY.
FLASH IS A GREAT FAVORITE WITH THE YOUNG NOBLES, WHO STRIVE VAINLY TO OUTDO HIM IN ALL FORMS OF COMPETITION, BOTH ARMED AND ATHLETIC.

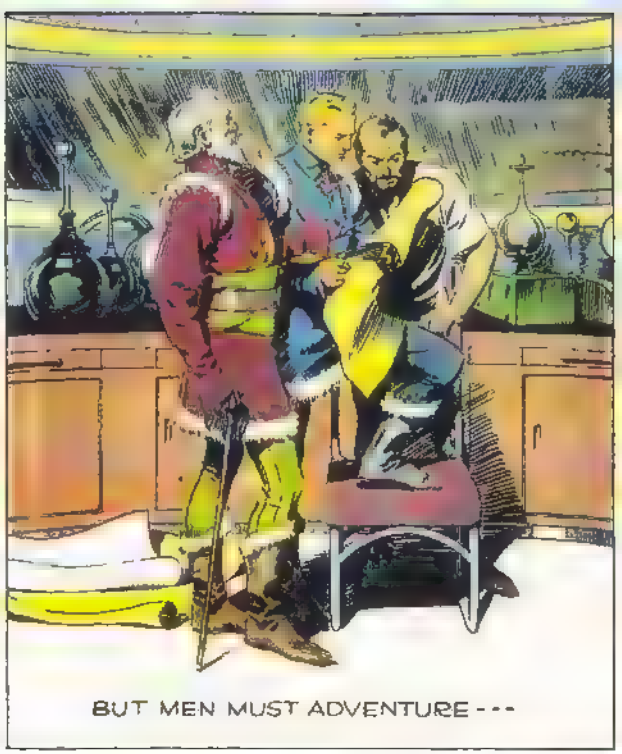

AT ALL COURT FUNCTIONS, FRIA'S EYES SEARCH OUT FLASH'S STALWART FORM. HIS PRESENCE NEVER FAILS TO QUICKEN HER PULSE AND DEEPEN HER COLOR.

ONLY IN THE PRIVACY OF HER CHAMBERS DOES DALE ADMIT HER FEARS -
"FRIA HAS EVERYTHING - BEAUTY, INTELLECT, CHARM--I LIKE HER SO MUCH! BUT I CAN'T LET HER WIN FLASH FROM ME--I CAN'T!"


NONE OF THIS ESCAPES THE PIERCING EYES OF JEALOUS AND AMBITIOUS COUNT KORRO, GREATEST EXPLORER IN FRIGIA--
"I'LL NOT SEE THIS PRETTY BLONDE YOUTH KING OF FRIGIA, CAPTAIN LUPI! SOUND OUT MISS ARDEN--HER JEALOUSY MAY AID OUR CAUSE!"
8-20-39.

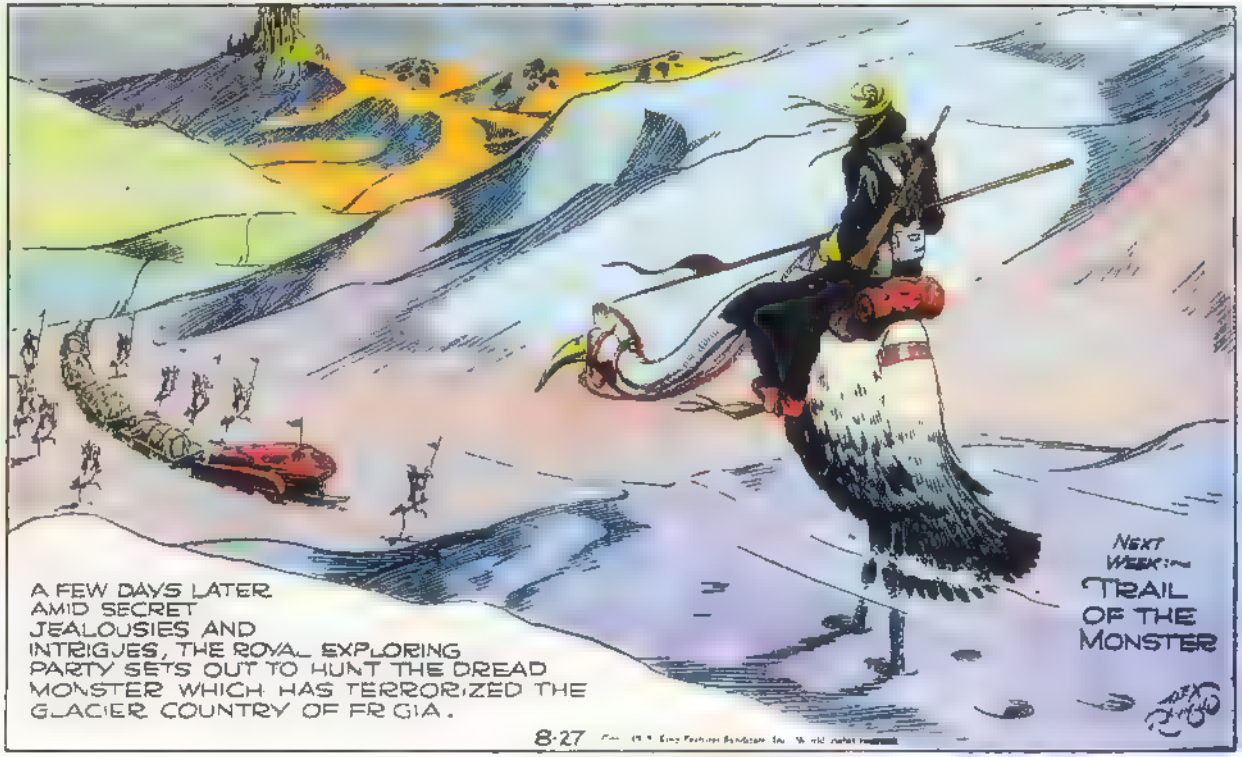

THAT NIGHT COUNT KORRO HEADS FOR THE REMOTE FRIGIAN SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY WHERE DOCTOR ZARKOV IS IN CHARGE.

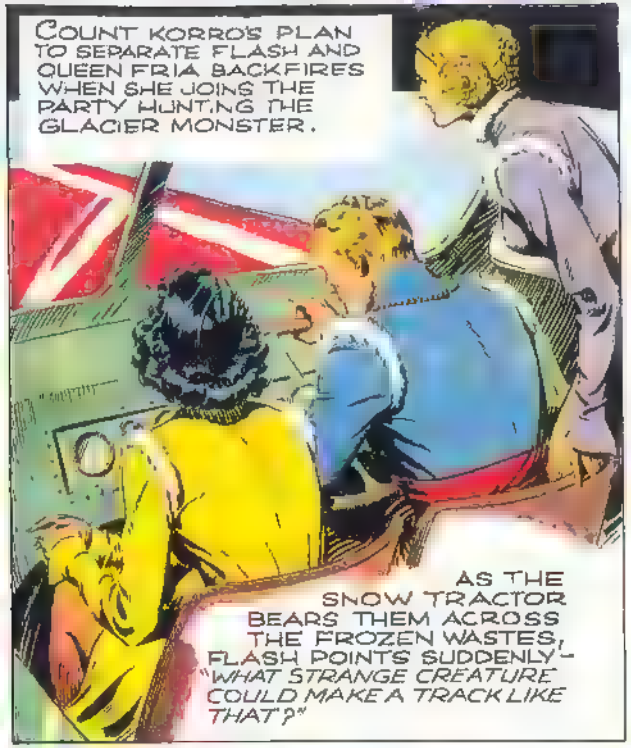

THE COUNT TELLS ZARKOV A WEIRD TALE, CONCLUDING WITH--"I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, ZARKOV, BUT I CAN SHOW YOU THIS MONSTER! I'LL ORGANIZE THE EXPEDITION, IF YOU AND FLASH GORDON WILL ACCOMPANY ME!"
NEXT WEEK:-- BAITING THE TRAP

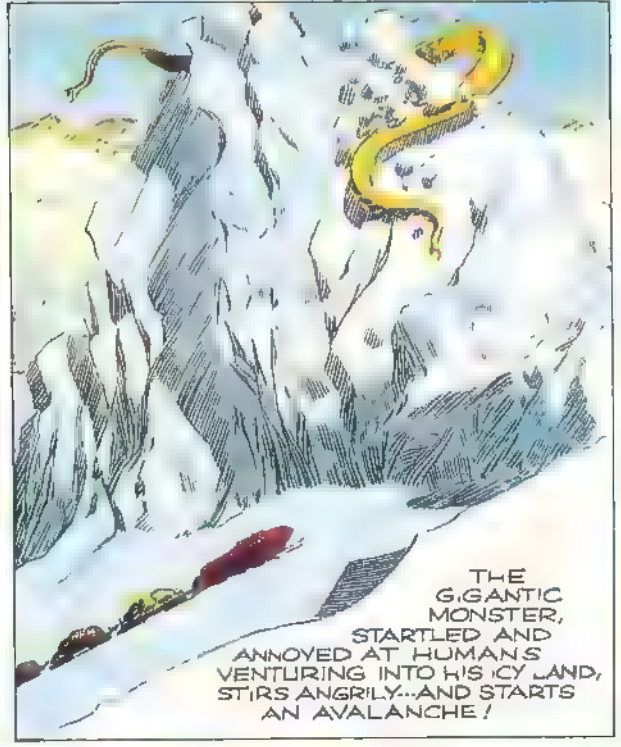


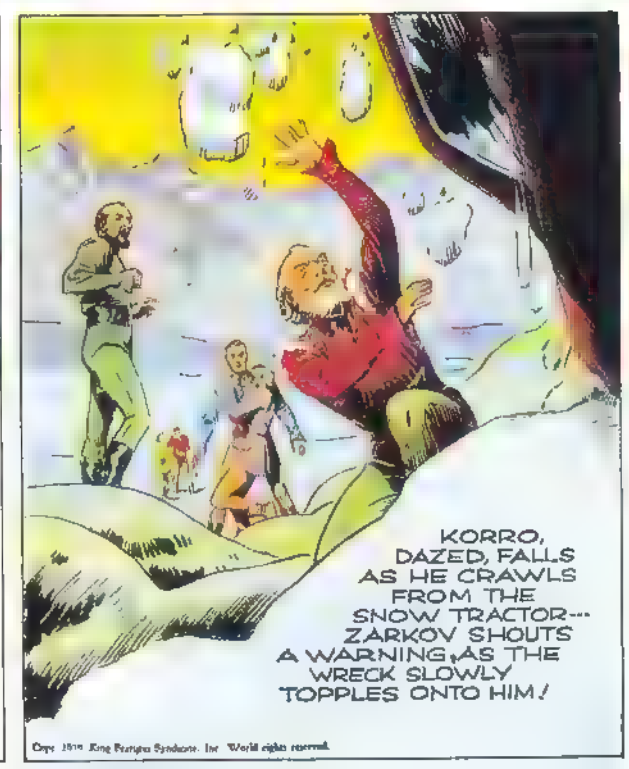
---AND WOMEN MUST WEEP.

HOWEVER, UNABLE TO ARGUE FLASH OUT OF GOING, FRIA SENDS FOR KORRO. DESPITE THE CHAGRINED COUNT'S PROTEST, SHE DECLARES FLATLY--- "THERE WILL BE NO EXPEDITION UNLESS DALE AND I ACCOMPANY YOU."









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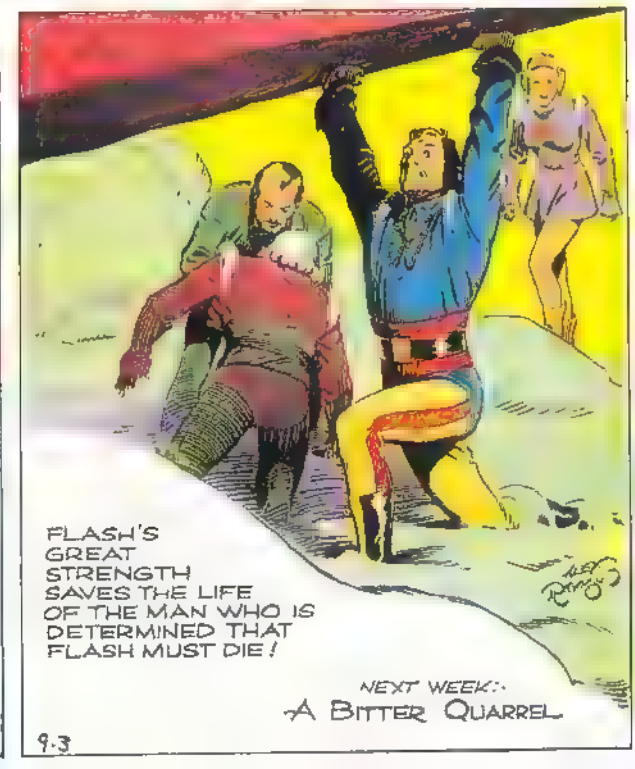
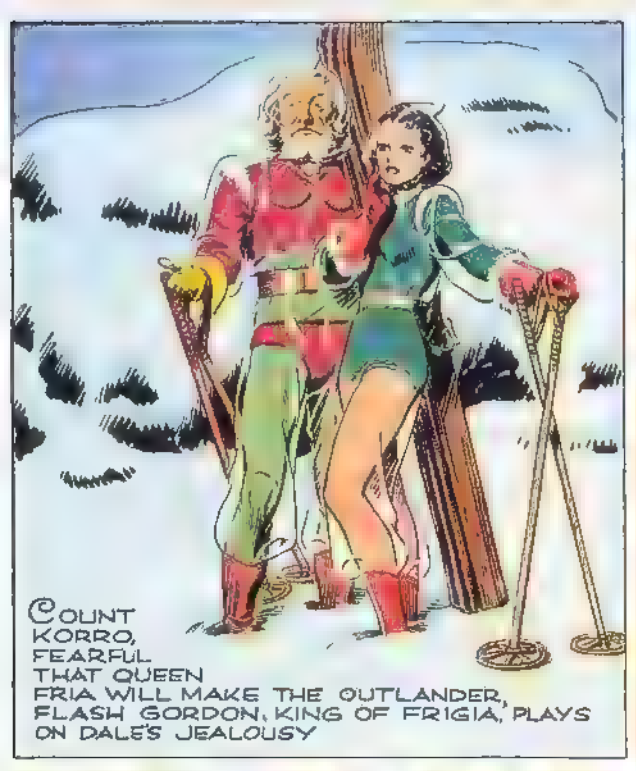
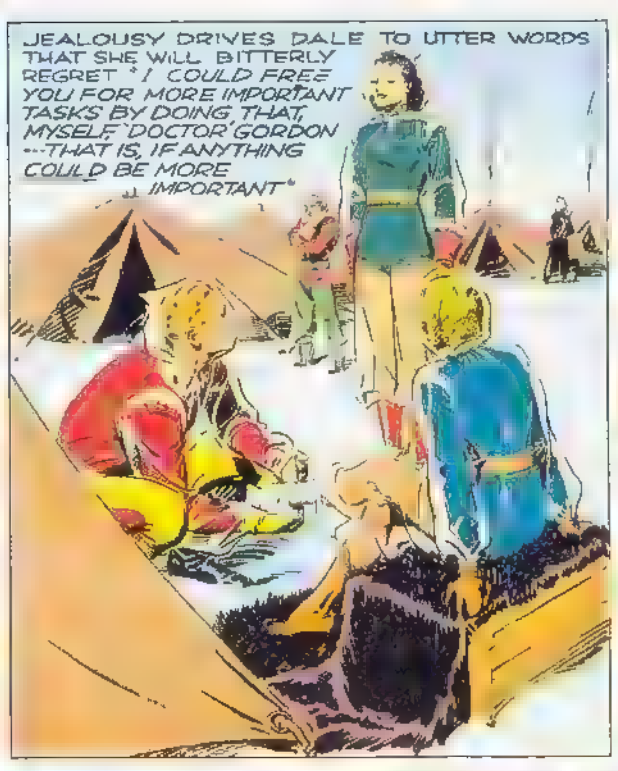
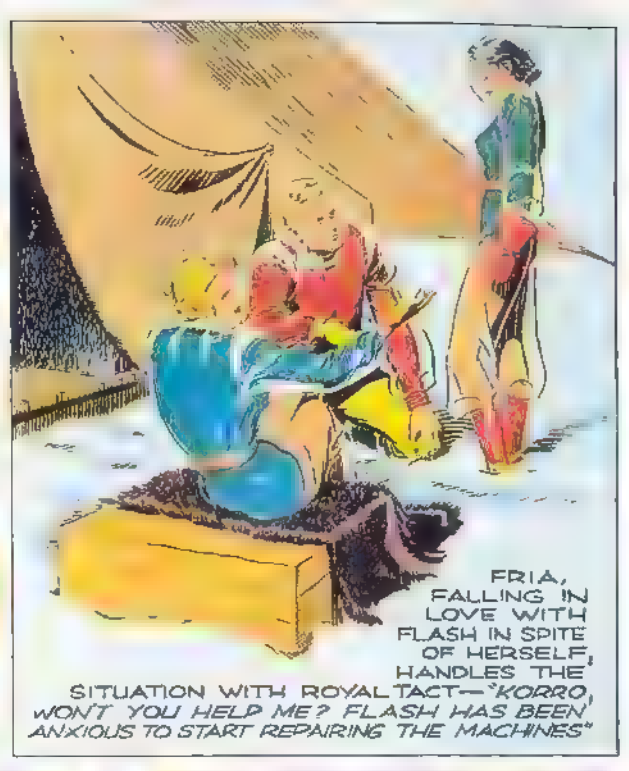
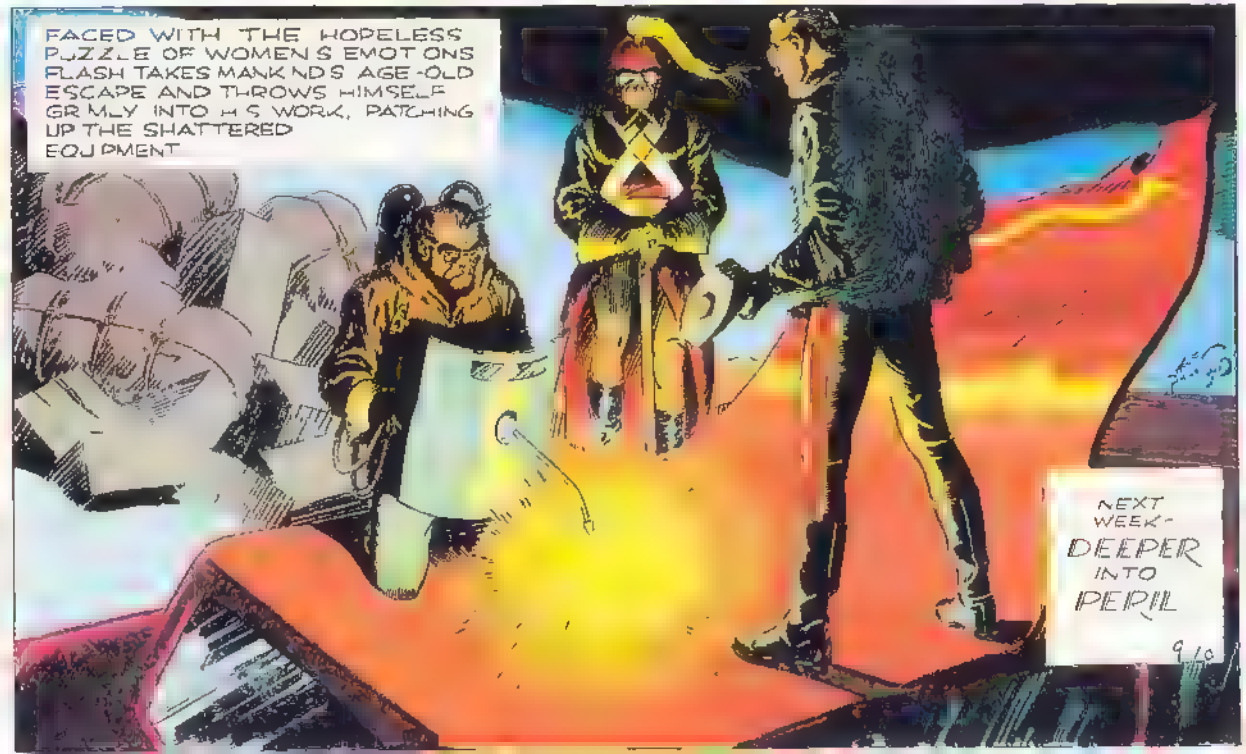



COUNT KORRO, FEARFUL THAT QUEEN FRIA WILL MAKE THE OUTLANDER, FLASH GORDON, KING OF FRIGIA, PLAYS ON DALE'S JEALOUSY


JEALOUSY DRIVES DALE TO UTTER WORDS THAT SHE WILL BITTERLY REGRET "I COULD FREE YOU FOR MORE IMPORTANT TASKS BY DOING THAT, MYSELF 'DOCTOR' GORDON ---THAT IS, IF ANYTHING COULD BE MORE IMPORTANT"


FRIA, FALLING IN LOVE WITH FLASH IN SPITE OF HERSELF, HANDLES THE SITUATION WITH ROYAL TACT—"KORRO, WON'T YOU HELP ME? FLASH HAS BEEN ANXIOUS TO START REPAIRING THE MACHINES"

FLASH AND DALE WALK AWAY IN STIFF SILENCE AT THE DOOR TO HER TENT SHE WHIRLS ON HIM—"WELL, SAY IT! SAY WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY AND GET IT OVER WITH!" "I HAVE NOTHING TO SAY," ANSWERS FLASH, "NOTHING!"


FACED WITH THE HOPELESS PUZZLE OF WOMEN'S EMOTIONS FLASH TAKES MANKIND'S AGE-OLD ESCAPE AND THROWS HIMSELF GRIMLY INTO HIS WORK, PATCHING UP THE SHATTERED EQUIPMENT
NEXT WEEK- DEEPER INTO PERIL
9/10

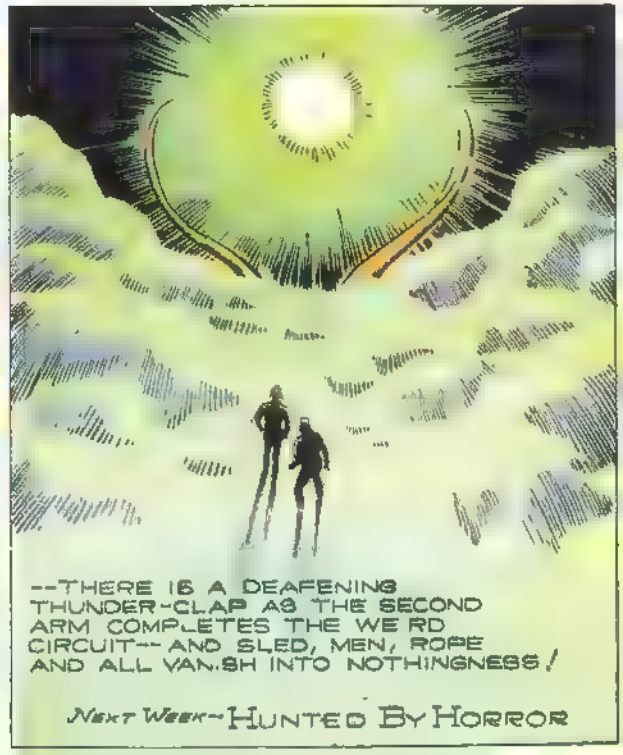
IN THE INTENSE COLD, FLASH DRIVES HIMSELF AND HIS COMRADES TO THE LIMIT OF THEIR ENDURANCE REPAIRING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT WRECKED IN THE AVALANCHE.

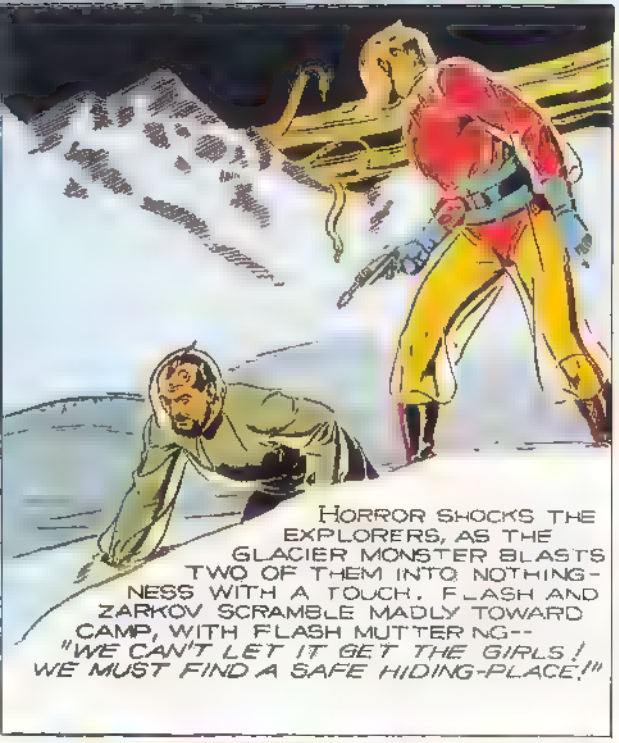
SUDDENLY, A HORRIBLE EYE TIPPED TENTACLE COILS OVER THE BROW OF A NEARBY HILL, THREATENING TWO MEMBERS OF THE EXPEDITION--
--WHO ARE HAULING A SMASHED TOW-SLED TOWARD CAMP.

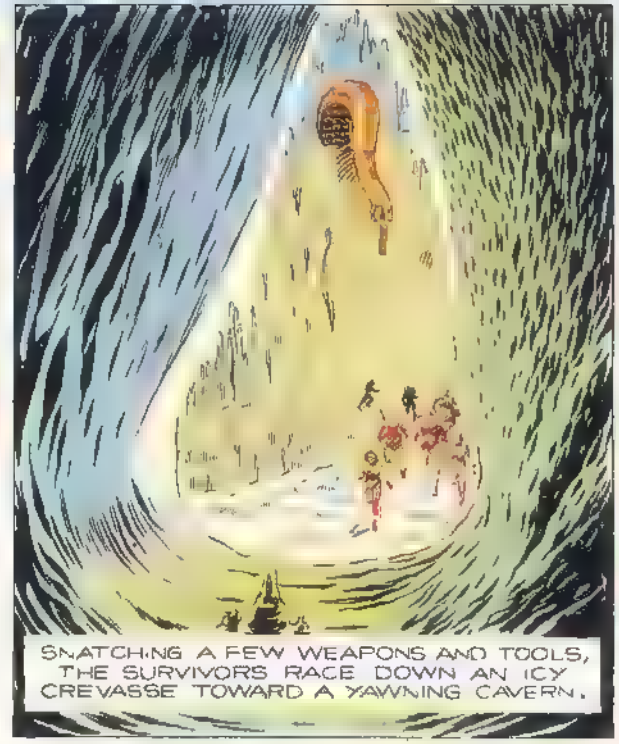
COUNT KORRO, SCHEMING TO KEEP FLASH FROM BECOMING KING OF FRIGIA, URGES HIM TOWARD CERTAIN DEATH. "SAVE YOUR MEN!" HE CRIES, BUT FLASH WAS ALREADY ON HIS WAY.

ZARKOV, WORKING ON BROKEN SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT NEARBY, INTERCEPTS FLASH AND DROPS HIM. "YOU CAN'T GO, FLASH! IF YOU ATTRACT THE MONSTER'S ATTENTION THIS WAY, THE WOMEN ARE DOOMED!"

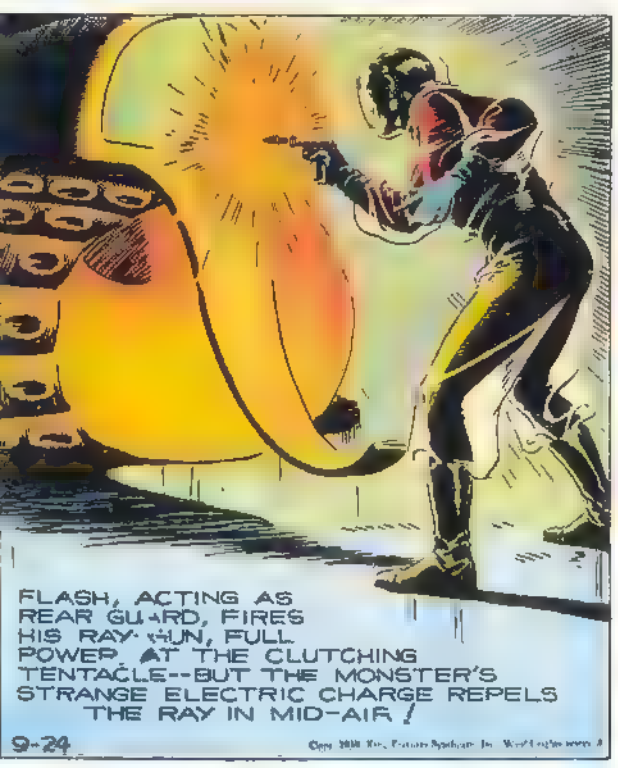
BUT THE MEN'S FATE IS ALREADY SEALED. ANOTHER ARM OF THE STRANGE MONSTER HAS REACHED OUT INQUIRINGLY--
9-17

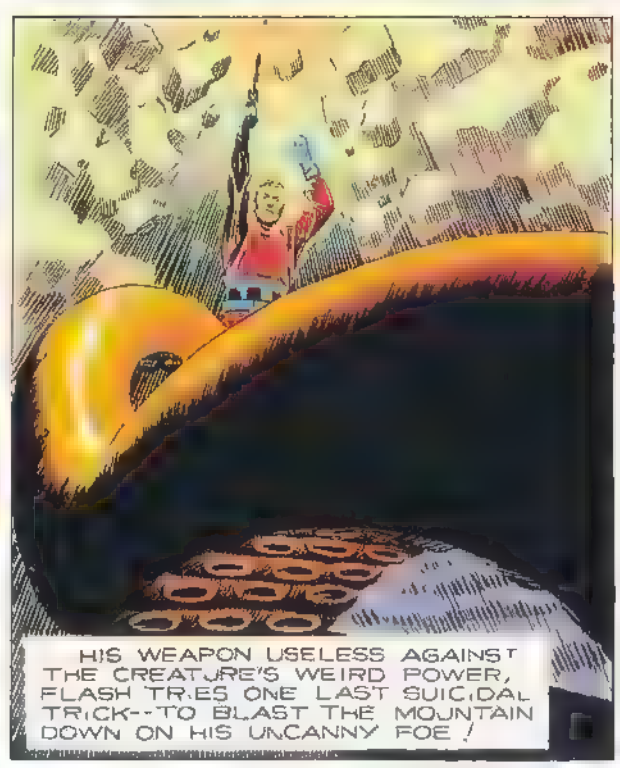

--THERE IS A DEAFENING THUNDER-CLAP AS THE SECOND ARM COMPLETES THE WEIRD CIRCUIT-- AND SLED, MEN, ROPE AND ALL VANISH INTO NOTHINGNESS!
NEXT WEEK—HUNTED BY HORROR


HORROR SHOCKS THE EXPLORERS, AS THE GLACIER MONSTER BLASTS TWO OF THEM INTO NOTHINGNESS WITH A TOUCH. FLASH AND ZARKOV SCRAMBLE MADLY TOWARD CAMP, WITH FLASH MUTTERING--
"WE CAN'T LET IT GET THE GIRLS! WE MUST FIND A SAFE HIDING-PLACE!"

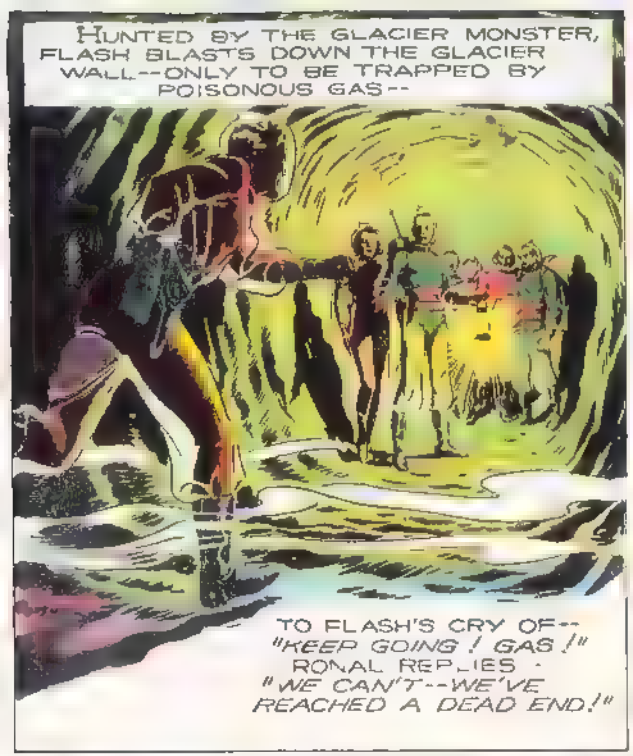

SNATCHING A FEW WEAPONS AND TOOLS, THE SURVIVORS RACE DOWN AN ICY CREVASSE TOWARD A YAWNING CAVERN.

WITHOUT HESITATION, THEY PLUNGE INTO THE UNKNOWN PERILS OF THE ICE TUNNEL.


FLASH, ACTING AS REAR GUARD, FIRES HIS RAY-GUN, FULL POWER, AT THE CLUTCHING TENTACLE--BUT THE MONSTER'S STRANGE ELECTRIC CHARGE REPELS THE RAY IN MID-AIR!
9-24

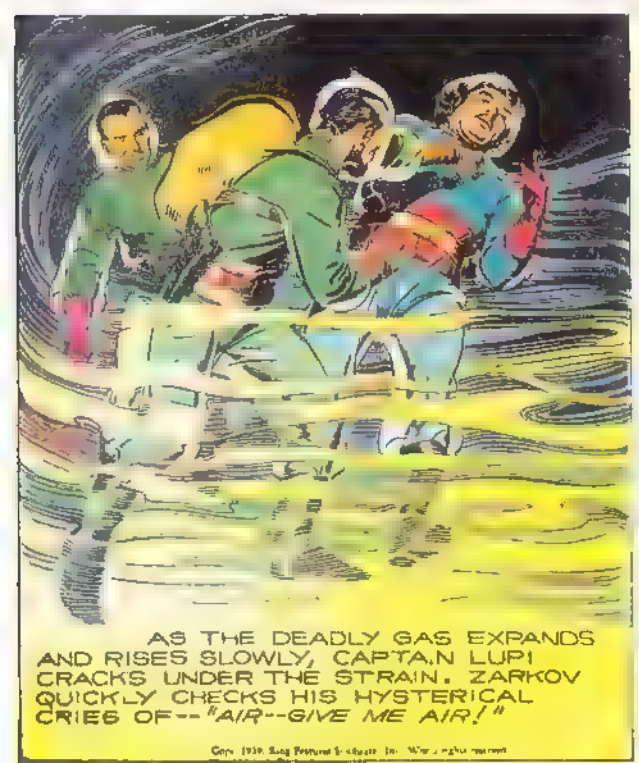

HIS WEAPON USELESS AGAINST THE CREATURE'S WEIRD POWER, FLASH TRIES ONE LAST SUICIDAL TRICK--TO BLAST THE MOUNTAIN DOWN ON HIS UNCANNY FOE!

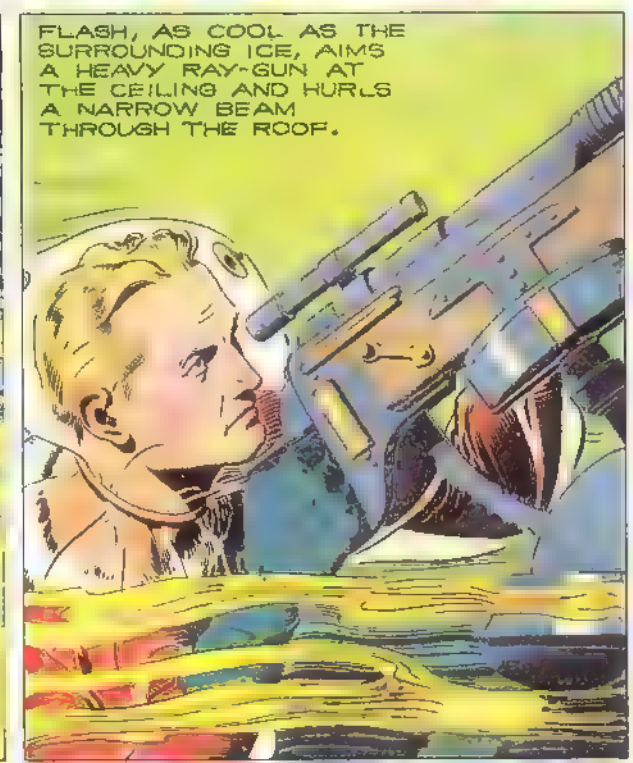
THE MOUNTAIN SHUDDERS. AN AVALANCHE POURS DOWN, AND THE MONSTER, UNHARMED, WITHDRAWS ITS TENTACLE WITH A PARTING BLAST OF CHOKING POISONOUS GAS!
~NEXT WEEK~
AIR! GIVE ME--AIR!

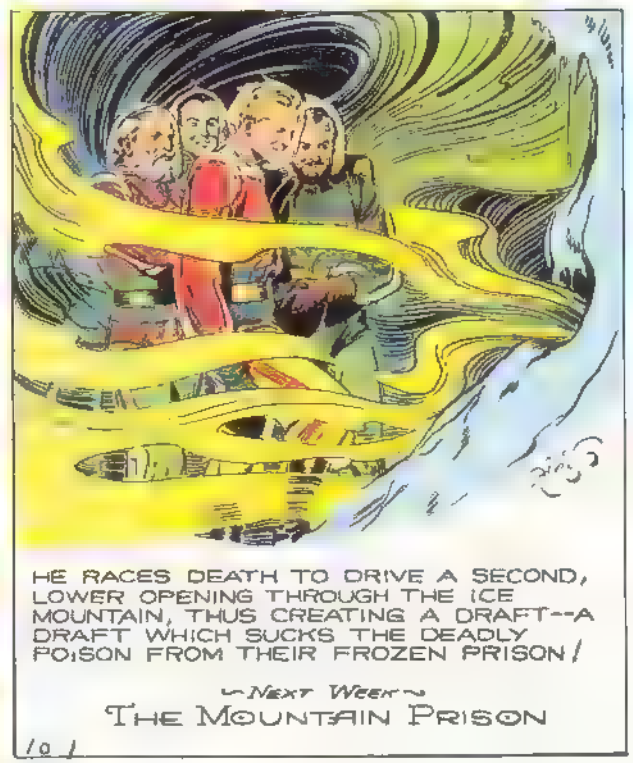

HUNTED BY THE GLACIER MONSTER, FLASH BLASTS DOWN THE GLACIER WALL--ONLY TO BE TRAPPED BY POISONOUS GAS--
TO FLASH'S CRY OF-- "KEEP GOING! GAS!" RONAL REPLIES "WE CAN'T--WE'VE REACHED A DEAD END!"

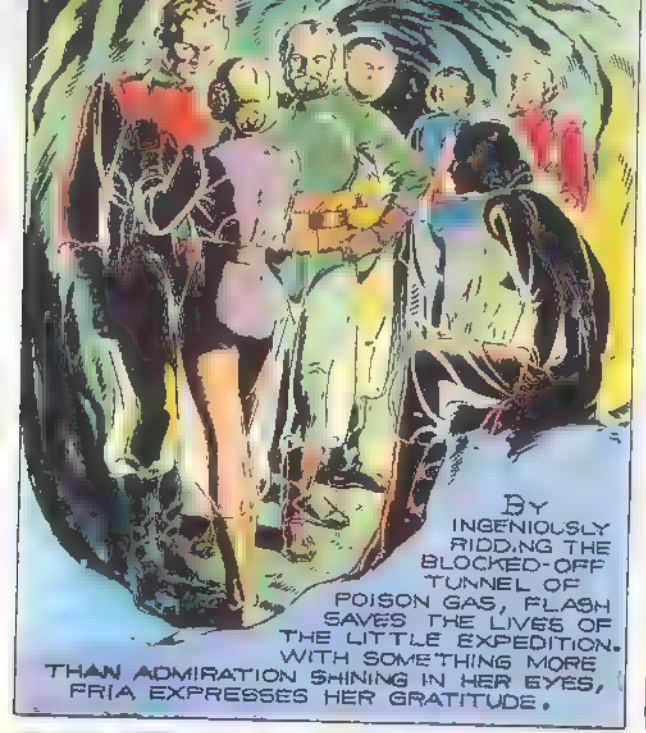
FLASH WHIRLS, AND AGAIN BLASTS DOWN THE WALLS IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO BLOCK OUT THE THICKENING SWIRLS OF GAS.

"NO USE", SAYS ZARKOV, "ENOUGH HAS COME IN TO FILL THE CAVE IN TIME. IT'LL RISE SLOWLY." THEY HELP THE GIRLS TO A HIGHER LEDGE--THAT THEY MAY LIVE A LITTLE LONGER.


AS THE DEADLY GAS EXPANDS AND RISES SLOWLY, CAPTAIN LUPI CRACKS UNDER THE STRAIN. ZARKOV QUICKLY CHECKS HIS HYSTERICAL CRIES OF--"AIR--GIVE ME AIR!"


FLASH, AS COOL AS THE SURROUNDING ICE, AIMS A HEAVY RAY-GUN AT THE CEILING AND HURLS A NARROW BEAM THROUGH THE ROOF.


HE RACES DEATH TO DRIVE A SECOND, LOWER OPENING THROUGH THE ICE MOUNTAIN, THUS CREATING A DRAFT--A DRAFT WHICH SUCKS THE DEADLY POISON FROM THEIR FROZEN PRISON!
~NEXT WEEK~
THE MOUNTAIN PRISON


BY INGENIOUSLY RIDDING THE BLOCKED-OFF TUNNEL OF POISON GAS, FLASH SAVES THE LIVES OF THE LITTLE EXPEDITION. WITH SOMETHING MORE THAN ADMIRATION SHINING IN HER EYES, FRIA EXPRESSES HER GRATITUDE.

COUNT KORRO, AWARE THAT HIS QUEEN IS FALLING IN LOVE WITH FLASH, CAN DO NOTHING BUT VENT HIS WRATH ON CAPTAIN LUPI "I OUGHT TO KILL YOU! YOUR COWARDLY HYSTERICS IN THE FACE OF DANGER HAVE DISGRACED ME AND THE FRIGIAN ARMY! I'LL HAVE YOUR COMMISSION FOR THIS!"

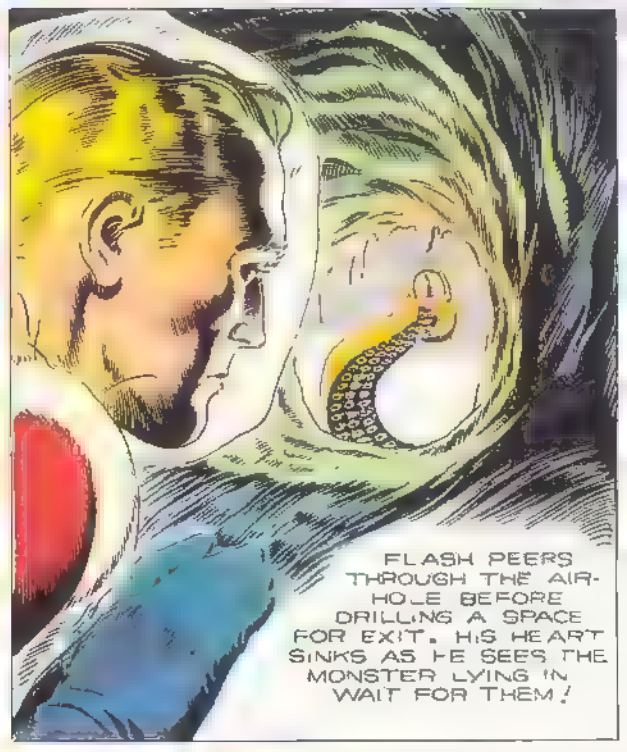
VENGEFUL LUPI WHISPERS TO FLASH - "KORRO STARTED THIS EXPEDITION SO YOU WOULD BE KILLED. HE'S JEALOUS, FOR, ACCORDING TO FRIGIAN TRADITION, QUEEN FRIA MUST MARRY A COUNT. YOU AND KORRO ARE THE ONLY ONES -- AND ONLY YOU ARE YOUNG AND HANDSOME!"

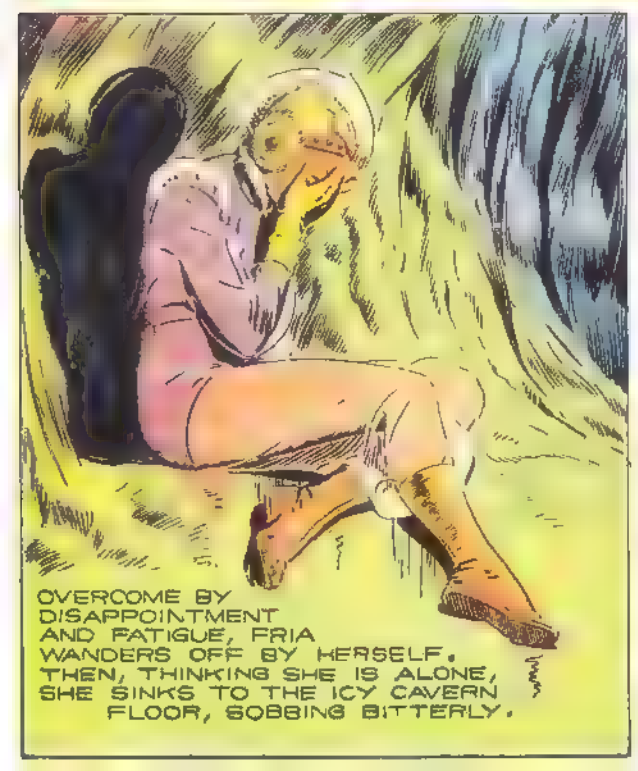
FLASH SPURNS LUPI'S VICIOUS ATTEMPT TO GET REVENGE ON KORRO, BUT NOW HE REALIZES WHAT A SITUATION HE IS IN.

"WHY DID YOU HIT MY CAPTAIN?", ASKS FRIA. "YOUR CAPTAIN IS A RAT", ANSWERS FLASH, "BUT HE'S UNIMPORTANT. WHAT MATTERS NOW IS GETTING OUT OF HERE!"

FLASH HOPES THAT THE EFFORT TO ESCAPE FROM THEIR ICE PRISON, BEFORE IT BECOMES A TOMB, WILL END THE QUARRELS AND INTRIGUES.
~NEXT WEEK~
THE GRIM GUARDIAN~

TRAPPED INSIDE A GLACIER BY AN INCREDIBLE MONSTER, FLASH USES THE FAST-FALLING POWER OF THE RAY GUNS TO BLAST A WAY OF ESCAPE.

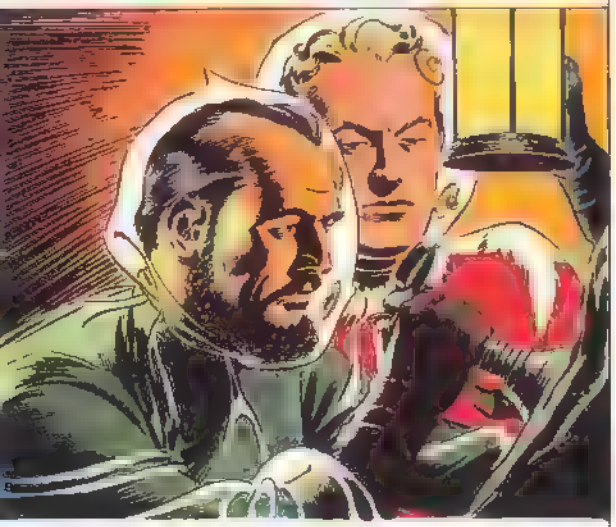

FLASH PEERS THROUGH THE AIR-HOLE BEFORE DRILLING A SPACE FOR EXIT. HIS HEART SINKS AS HE SEES THE MONSTER LYING IN WAIT FOR THEM!


OVERCOME BY DISAPPOINTMENT AND FATIGUE, FRIA WANDERS OFF BY HERSELF. THEN, THINKING SHE IS ALONE, SHE SINKS TO THE ICY CAVERN FLOOR, SOBBING BITTERLY.

THERE FLASH FINDS HER--"I KNOW, FRIA," HE SAYS GENTLY, "EVEN QUEENS ARE HUMAN. BUT DON'T GIVE UP-- WE'RE NOT LICKED YET!" DALE, HAPPENING UPON THE SCENE, QUITE NATURALLY, MISUNDERSTANDS.

FLASH HAS NO TIME TO EXPLAIN--FOR ZARKOV RUNS UP WITH STILL WORSE NEWS. THE MONSTER'S EVIL INTELLIGENCE HAS DISCOVERED THE AIR-HOLES OF THE CAVERN AND SHUT THEM OFF WITH ITS HORRIBLE TENTACLES, DOOMING ALL TO A DEATH BY SUFFOCATION!
10-15
—NEXT WEEK—
THE CAVERN'S SECRET

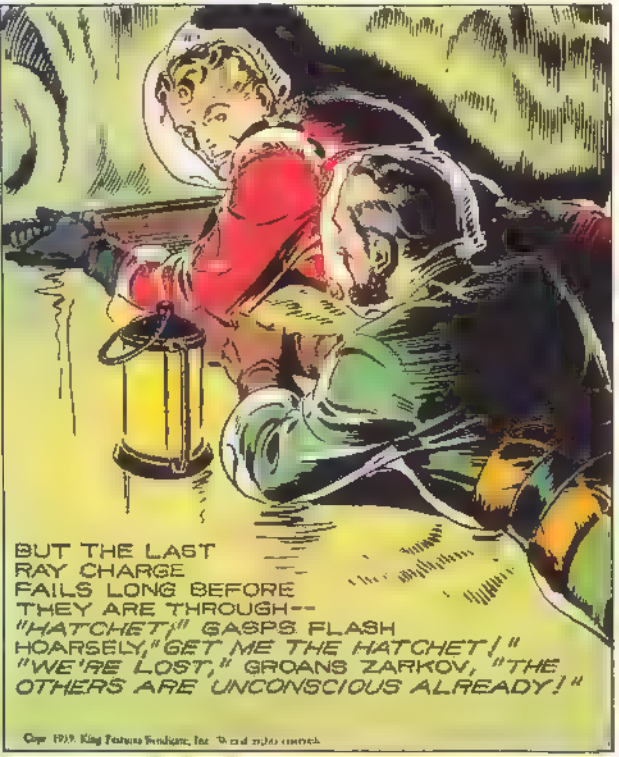
FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS DESPERATELY SEEK ESCAPE FROM THE CAVERN, AS THE GLACIER MONSTER SHUTS OFF THEIR AIR SUPPLY BY PLACING ITS GREAT TENTACLES OVER THE AIR-VENTS.



WITH A SMALL SOUNDING-DEVICE, FLASH AND ZARKOV MEASURE THE WALL THICKNESS BY ELECTRICAL IMPULSE.

AS TIME PASSES, BREATHING BECOMES MORE DIFFICULT AND THE COLD MORE UNBEARABLE. DALE, RONAL, KORRO, LUPI AND FRIA WATCH THE TWO MEN WITH HOPE FADING FROM THEIR EYES.

SUDDENLY ZARKOV SPEAKS-- *"THE WALL IS THINNEST HERE. THERE'S A TUNNEL OR CAVE NEARBY!"* *"GOOD,"* BREATHES FLASH, *"IF OUR POWER ONLY HOLDS OUT TILL WE BORE AN OPENING!"*



BUT THE LAST RAY CHARGE FAILS LONG BEFORE THEY ARE THROUGH-- *"HATCHET!"* GASPS FLASH HOARSELY, *"GET ME THE HATCHET!"* *"WE'RE LOST,"* GROANS ZARKOV, *"THE OTHERS ARE UNCONSCIOUS ALREADY!"*

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FINALLY, ONLY FLASH REMAINS CONSCIOUS. SWEAT BATHES HIS BODY-- HIS BREATH COMES IN GREAT, LABORED GASPS--BUT HIS POWERFUL RIGHT ARM DRIVES THE HATCHET INTO THE ICE-- AGAIN--AND AGAIN--AND AGAIN.

THE WALL BREAKS THROUGH! AND FLASH PITCHES FORWARD ON HIS FACE, GULPING THE SWEET, PURE AIR INTO HIS TORTURED LUNGS.

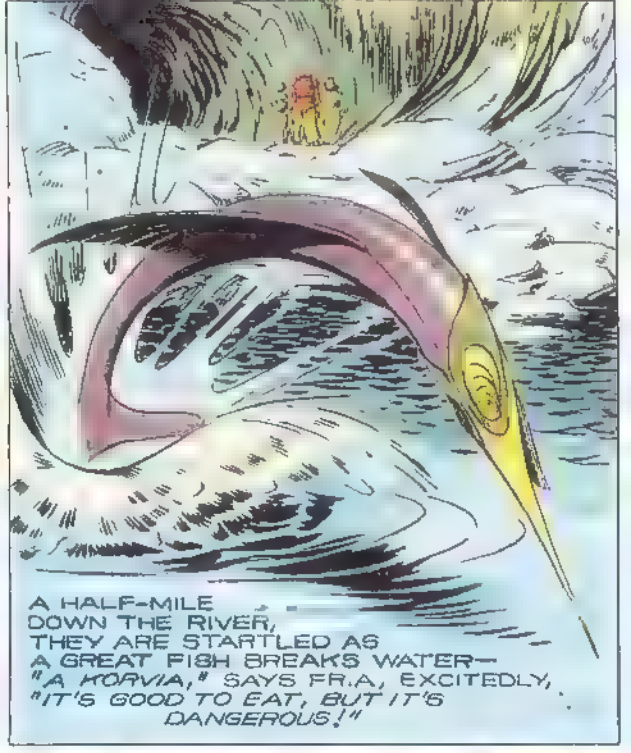
10 22

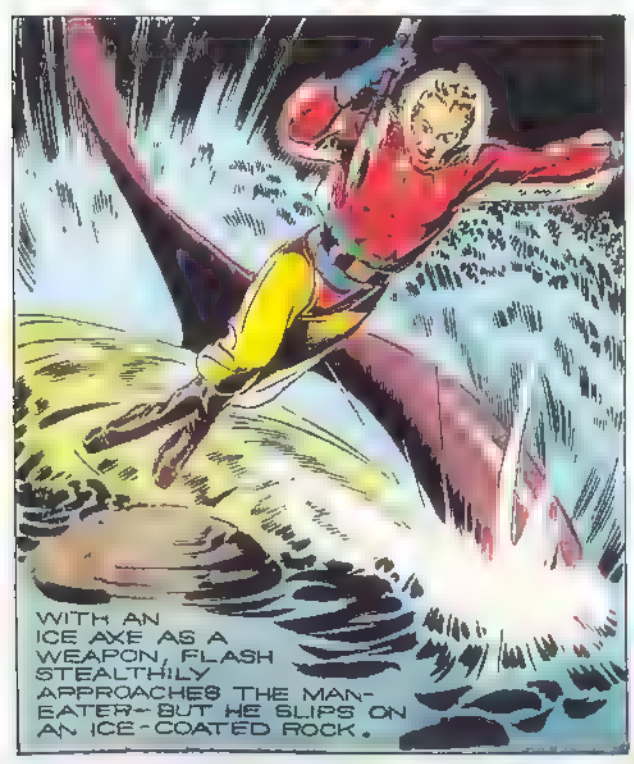
—NEXT WEEK—

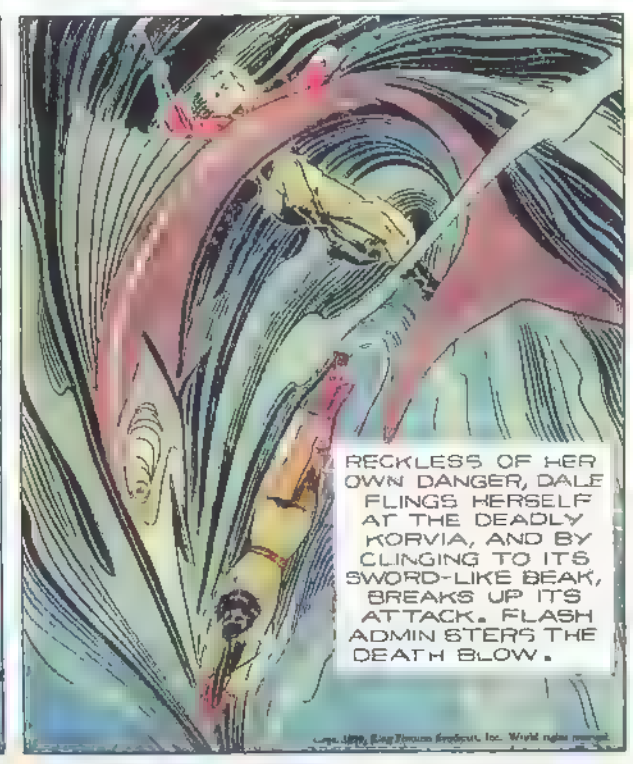
UNDERGROUND RIVER

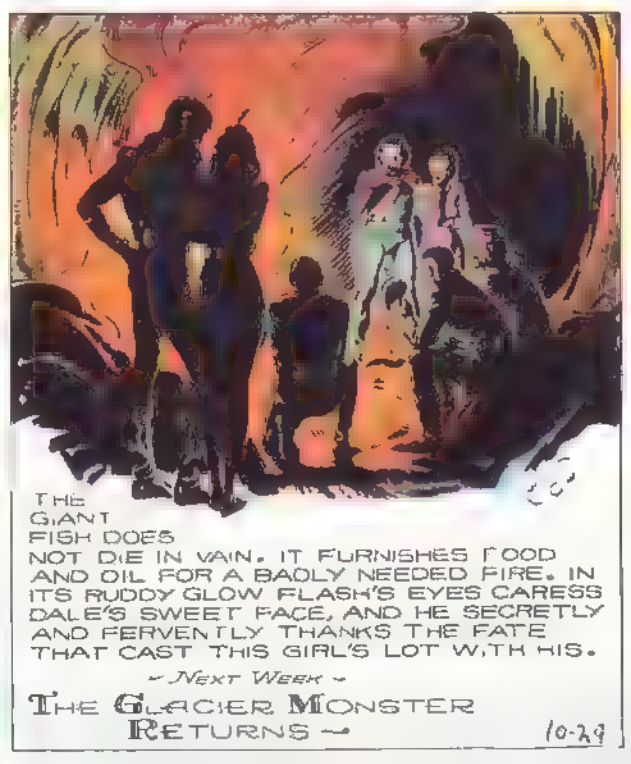
AS FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS RECOVER FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE R IMPRISONMENT IN AN AIR LESS TUNNEL, KORRO RE-MARKS TO HIS QUEEN— "IT'S TOUCHING TO SEE HOW HE LOVES HER, YOUR HIGHNESS!" -
--FRIA REPLIES HAUGHTILY—"KINDLY KEEP YOUR CLEVER OBSERVATIONS TO YOURSELF, MY DEAR COUNT!"

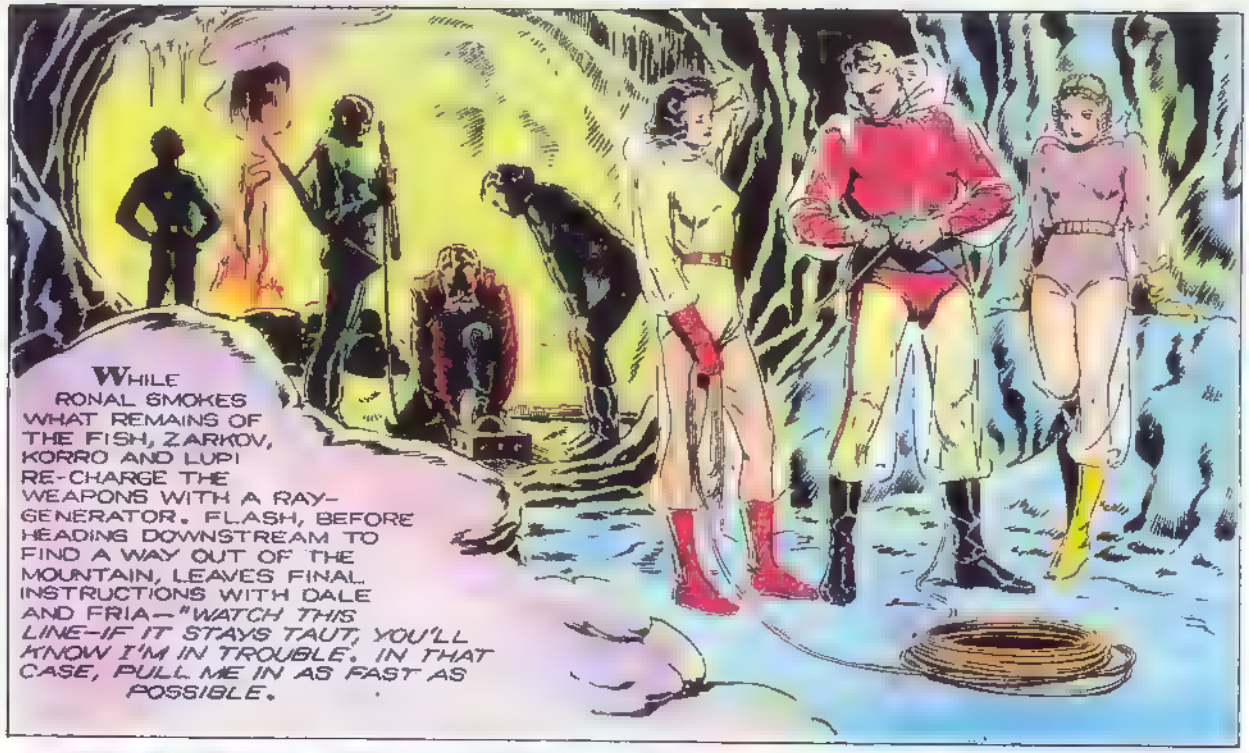
FRIA SAUNTERS OVER TO FLASH—"WE'RE LOST AND WEAPON-LESS, FLASH. WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST DOING?" "WELL," SAYS FLASH THOUGHTFULLY, "I THINK OUR FIRST MOVE IS TO EXPLORE THIS GLACIER RIVER FOR A WAY OUT."


A HALF-MILE DOWN THE RIVER, THEY ARE STARTLED AS A GREAT FISH BREAKS WATER— "A KORVIA," SAYS FRIA, EXCITEDLY, "IT'S GOOD TO EAT, BUT IT'S DANGEROUS!"

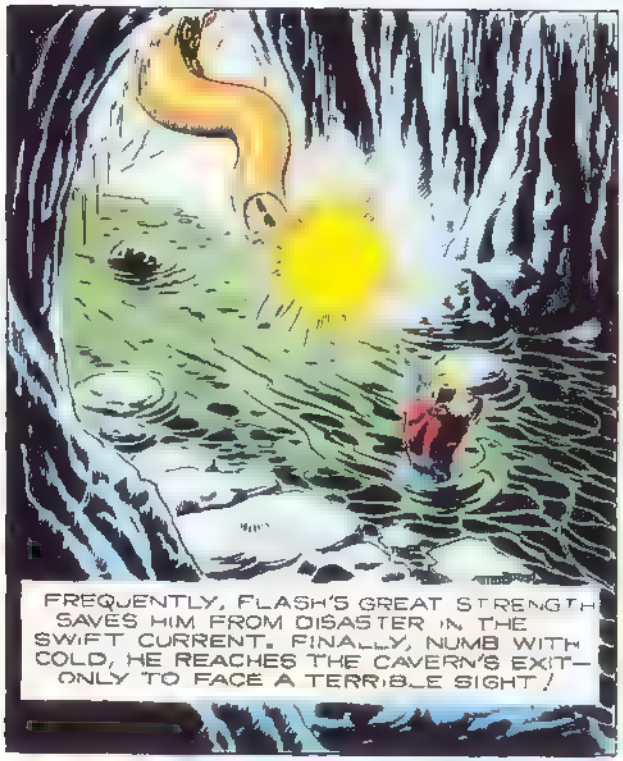

WITH AN ICE AXE AS A WEAPON, FLASH STEALTHILY APPROACHES THE MAN-EATER—BUT HE SLIPS ON AN ICE-COATED ROCK.


RECKLESS OF HER OWN DANGER, DALE FLINGS HERSELF AT THE DEADLY KORVIA, AND BY CLINGING TO ITS SWORD-LIKE BEAK, BREAKS UP ITS ATTACK. FLASH ADMINISTERS THE DEATH BLOW.


THE GIANT FISH DOES NOT DIE IN VAIN. IT FURNISHES FOOD AND OIL FOR A BADLY NEEDED FIRE. IN ITS RUDDY GLOW FLASH'S EYES CARESS DALE'S SWEET FACE, AND HE SECRETLY AND FERVENTLY THANKS THE FATE THAT CAST THIS GIRL'S LOT WITH HIS.
~ NEXT WEEK ~
THE GLACIER MONSTER RETURNS ~
10-29


WHILE RONAL SMOKES WHAT REMAINS OF THE FISH, ZARKOV, KORRO AND LUPI RE-CHARGE THE WEAPONS WITH A RAY-GENERATOR. FLASH, BEFORE HEADING DOWNSTREAM TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THE MOUNTAIN, LEAVES FINAL INSTRUCTIONS WITH DALE AND FRIA—"WATCH THIS LINE—IF IT STAYS TAUT, YOU'LL KNOW I'M IN TROUBLE. IN THAT CASE, PULL ME IN AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.

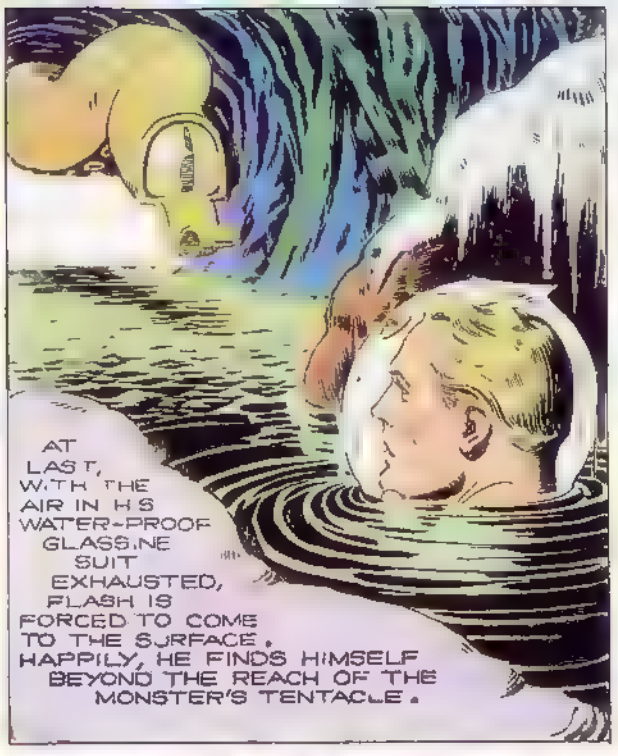
FLASH PLAYS OUT HIS LINE AS HE GOES. FINDING, AS HE EXPECTED, VERY LITTLE BANK ON WHICH TO MAINTAIN A FOOTHOLD, HE DECIDES TO TAKE TO THE ICY STREAM.


FREQUENTLY, FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH SAVES HIM FROM DISASTER IN THE SWIFT CURRENT. FINALLY, NUMB WITH COLD, HE REACHES THE CAVERN'S EXIT—ONLY TO FACE A TERRIBLE SIGHT!

HIS RAY GUN IS FUTILE AGAINST THE GLACIER MONSTER'S OWN TREMENDOUS ELECTRIC CHARGE. FLASH DIVES DEEP INTO THE ICY WATER.
11-5

FLASH GUESSES RIGHT. THE MONSTER DOES NOT PURSUE HIM INTO THE WATER, WHICH WOULD DISCHARGE HIS OWN POWER—BUT THE TENTACLE STAYS POISED TO SEIZE FLASH IF HE COMES TO THE SURFACE!
—NEXT WEEK—
AN ACCIDENT

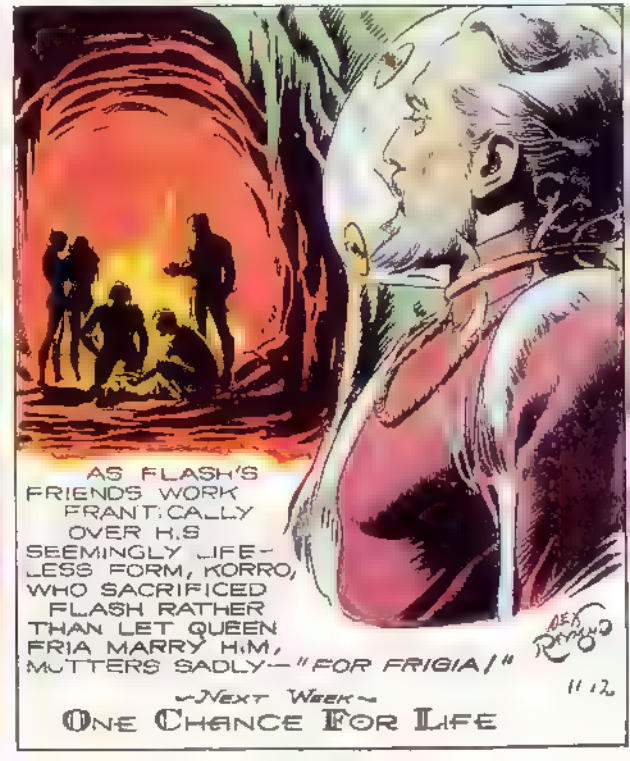
WITH THE GLACIER MONSTER READY TO POUNCE IF HE LEAVES THE WATER, FLASH FIGHTS HIS WAY UP THE ICY GLACIER STREAM, TRAVELING ALONG THE RIVER BOTTOM.

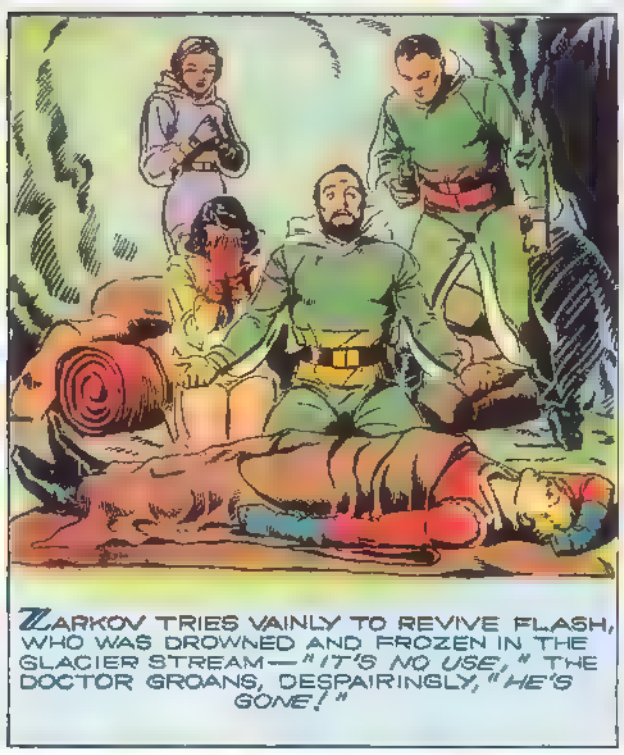

AT LAST, WITH THE AIR IN HIS WATER-PROOF GLASSINE SUIT EXHAUSTED, FLASH IS FORCED TO COME TO THE SURFACE. HAPPILY, HE FINDS HIMSELF BEYOND THE REACH OF THE MONSTER'S TENTACLE.

BUT AS FLASH LEAVES THE RIVER, HE SLIPS ON AN ICE-COATED ROCK AND STRIKES HIS HEAD A GLANCING BLOW.

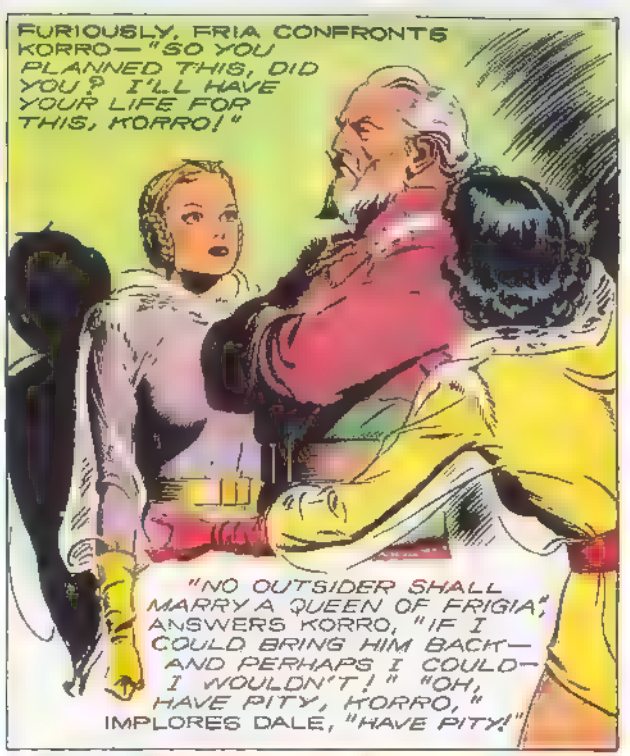
DALE, WAITING ANXIOUSLY FOR A SIGNAL, OR FOR FLASH'S RETURN, SEES THE LIFELINE GROW SUDDENLY TAUT. WITH A CRY, SHE LEAPS FOR IT—BUT KORRO STOPS HER, HISSING—"LET GO, CHILD—YOU MUSTN'T INTERFERE!"

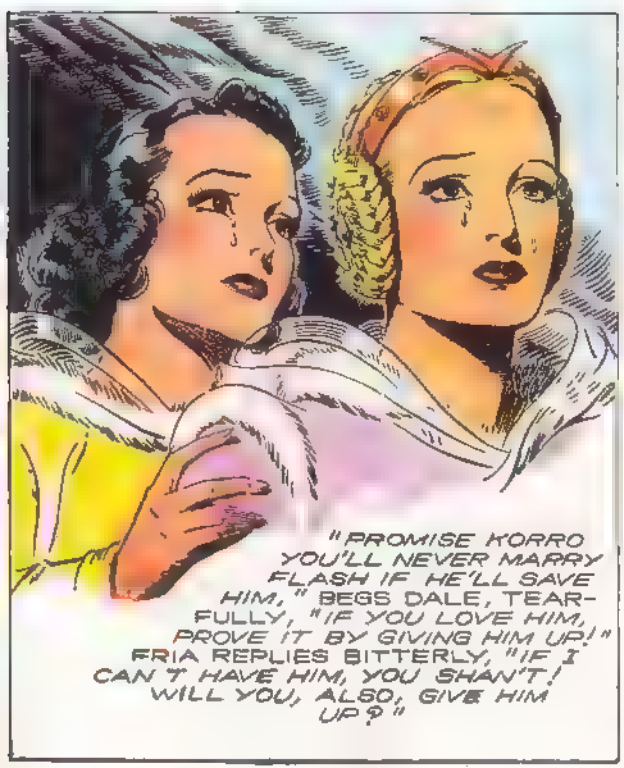
A SHOUT FROM FRIA BRINGS ZARKOV AND RONAL, WHO DESPERATELY HAUL IN THE LIFELINE.


AS FLASH'S FRIENDS WORK FRANTICALLY OVER HIS SEEMINGLY LIFE-LESS FORM, KORRO, WHO SACRIFICED FLASH RATHER THAN LET QUEEN FRIA MARRY HIM, MUTTERS SADLY—"FOR FRIGIA!"
ALEX RAYMOND
11-12
—NEXT WEEK—
ONE CHANCE FOR LIFE

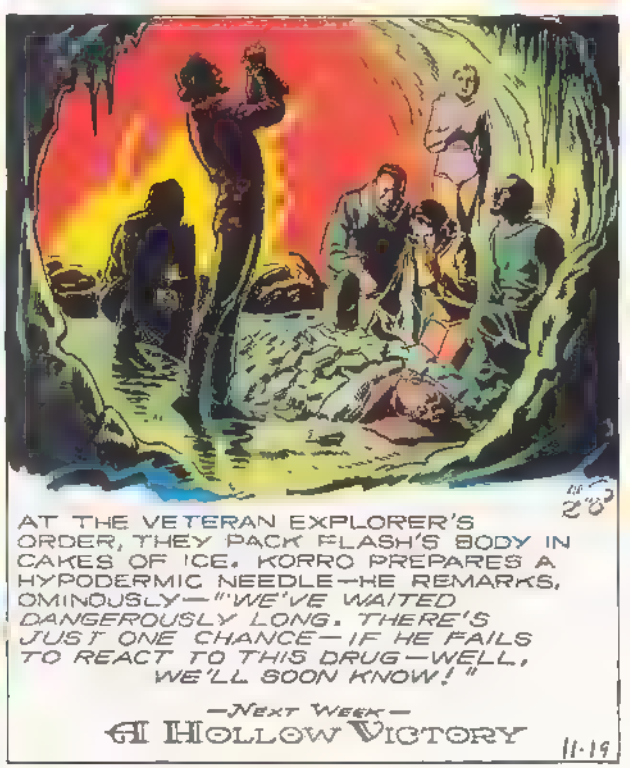

ZARKOV TRIES VAINLY TO REVIVE FLASH, WHO WAS DROWNED AND FROZEN IN THE GLACIER STREAM—"IT'S NO USE," THE DOCTOR GROANS, DESPAIRINGLY, "HE'S GONE!"

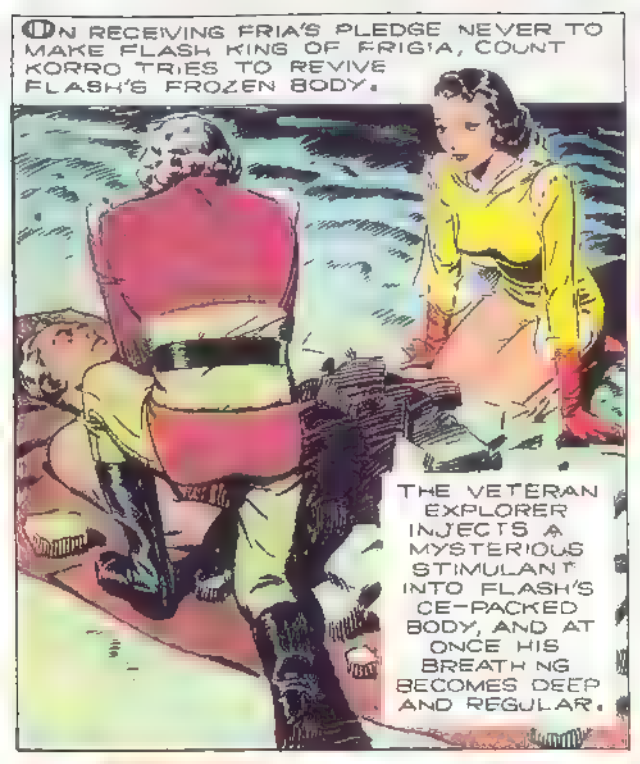
FRIA, GRIEVING IN SOLITUDE, HEARS CAPTAIN LUPI'S LOW-PITCHED, GLOATING VOICE—"HA, YOUR RIVAL FOR FRIA'S HAND IS OUT OF THE WAY, COUNT KORRO!" "DON'T GLOAT, JACKAL," REPLIES KORRO, "A BRAVE MAN IS DEAD!"


FURIOUSLY, FRIA CONFRONTS KORRO—"SO YOU PLANNED THIS, DID YOU? I'LL HAVE YOUR LIFE FOR THIS, KORRO!"
"NO OUTSIDER SHALL MARRY A QUEEN OF FRIGIA," ANSWERS KORRO, "IF I COULD BRING HIM BACK—AND PERHAPS I COULD—I WOULDN'T!" "OH, HAVE PITY, KORRO," IMPLORES DALE, "HAVE PITY!"

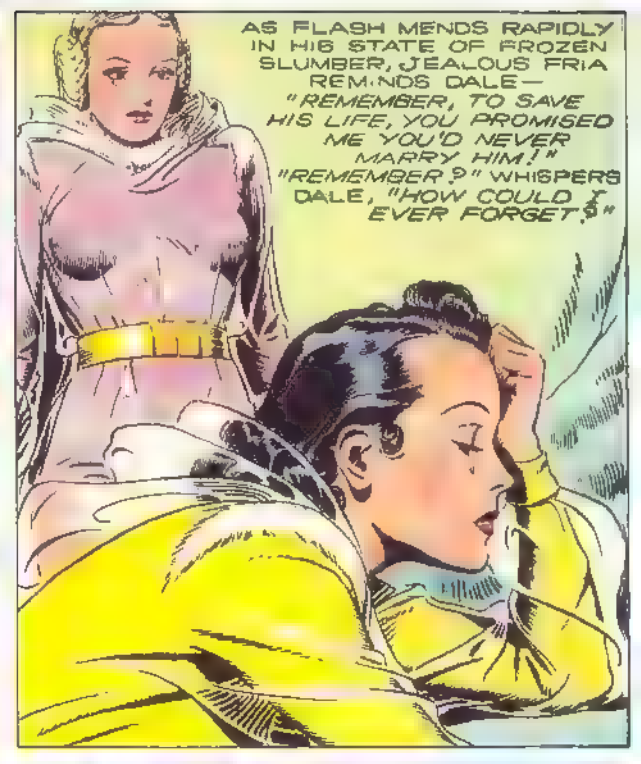

"PROMISE KORRO YOU'LL NEVER MARRY FLASH IF HE'LL SAVE HIM," BEGS DALE, TEARFULLY, "IF YOU LOVE HIM, PROVE IT BY GIVING HIM UP!" FRIA REPLIES BITTERLY, "IF I CAN'T HAVE HIM, YOU SHAN'T! WILL YOU, ALSO, GIVE HIM UP?"

DALE, DESPERATE, PROMISES THE JEALOUS QUEEN THAT SHE'LL NEVER MARRY FLASH.
"SAVE HIM, KORRO," ORDERS FRIA, "ON MY ROYAL HONOR HE'LL NEVER BE KING OF FRIGIA—I'LL EVEN PARDON YOU." "I DON'T MATTER," ANSWERS KORRO, "BUT FRIGIA DOES. I'LL DO MY BEST FOR THE LAD."


AT THE VETERAN EXPLORER'S ORDER, THEY PACK FLASH'S BODY IN CAKES OF ICE. KORRO PREPARES A HYPODERMIC NEEDLE—HE REMARKS, OMINOUSLY—"WE'VE WAITED DANGEROUSLY LONG. THERE'S JUST ONE CHANCE—IF HE FAILS TO REACT TO THIS DRUG—WELL, WE'LL SOON KNOW!"
—NEXT WEEK—
A HOLLOW VICTORY
11-19

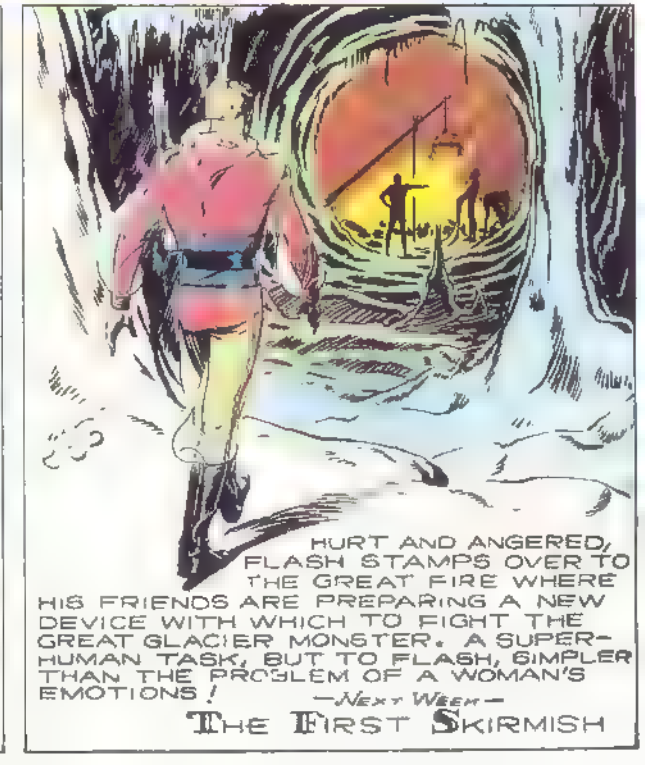

ON RECEIVING FRIA'S PLEDGE NEVER TO MAKE FLASH KING OF FRIGIA, COUNT KORRO TRIES TO REVIVE FLASH'S FROZEN BODY.
THE VETERAN EXPLORER INJECTS A MYSTERIOUS STIMULANT INTO FLASH'S ICE-PACKED BODY, AND AT ONCE HIS BREATHING BECOMES DEEP AND REGULAR.

"WHY, IT'S MIRACULOUS!" EXCLAIMS ZARKOV, "TELL ME—THAT ICE—IS IT FROZEN SLEEP? I WAS EXPERIMENTING WITH IT ON EARTH—"
"WHAT YOU CALL 'FROZEN SLEEP' HAS LONG BEEN PRACTISED IN FRIGIA," ANSWERS KORRO "YOU HAVE MUCH TO LEARN, ZARKOV."

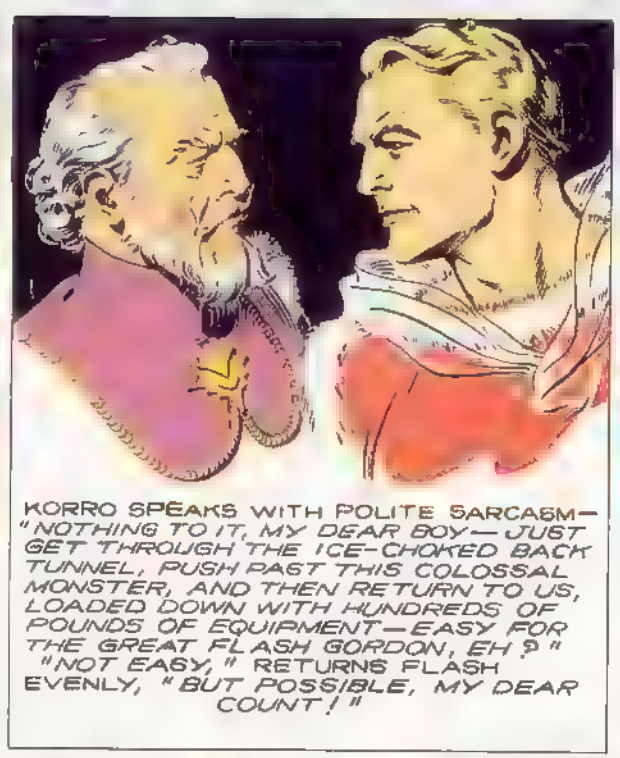

AS FLASH MENDS RAPIDLY IN HIS STATE OF FROZEN SLUMBER, JEALOUS FRIA REMINDS DALE—
"REMEMBER, TO SAVE HIS LIFE, YOU PROMISED ME YOU'D NEVER MARRY HIM!"
"REMEMBER?" WHISPERS DALE, "HOW COULD I EVER FORGET?"

FAITHFULLY AND TENDERLY, DALE NURSES FLASH THROUGH HIS CONVALESCENCE. IN SPITE OF HER BRAVE ATTEMPTS TO HIDE HER GRIEF, FLASH REALIZES THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG.
11 2 6

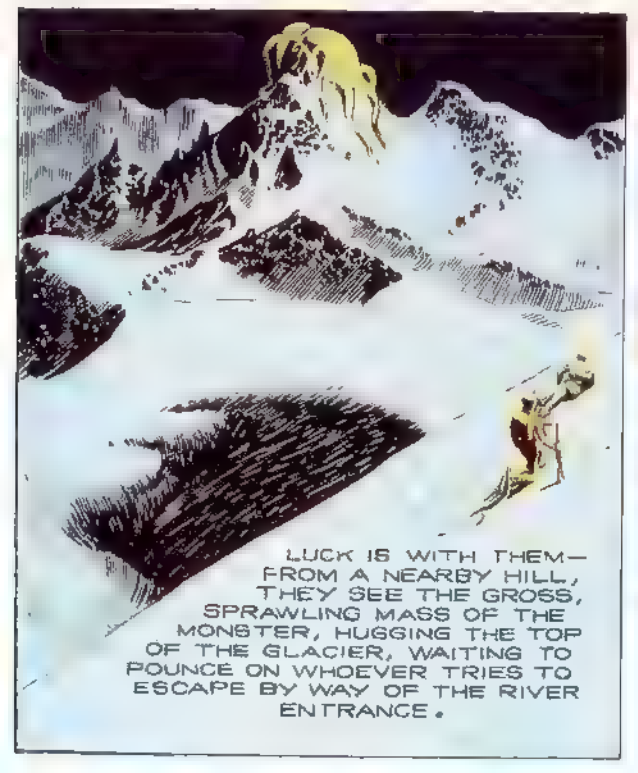
FINALLY, ONE DAY, FLASH GATHERS HER INTO HIS ARMS AND SAYS—
"DARLING, IT HURTS ME TO SEE YOU SO UNHAPPY—TELL OL' DOC' GORDON ALL ABOUT IT." "I CAN'T STAND IT," SOBS DALE, "OH, LET ME ALONE!"

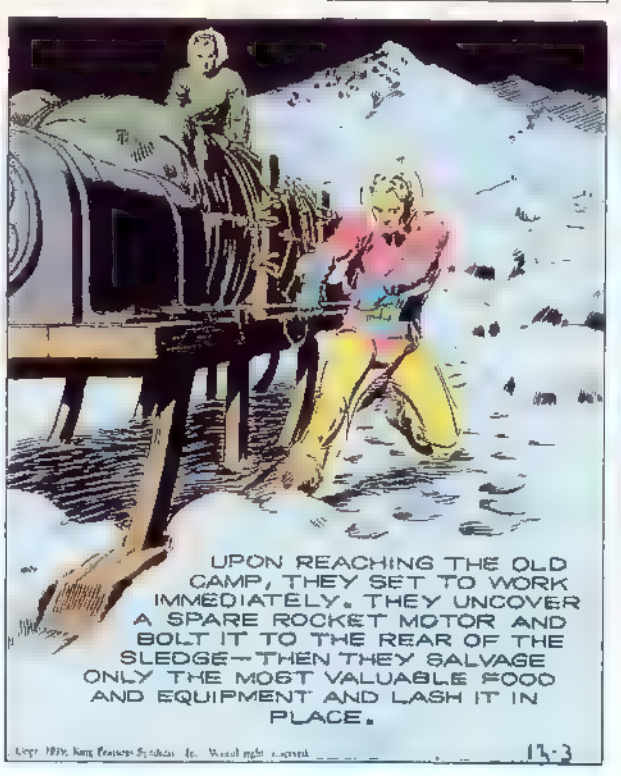

HURT AND ANGERED, FLASH STAMPS OVER TO THE GREAT FIRE WHERE HIS FRIENDS ARE PREPARING A NEW DEVICE WITH WHICH TO FIGHT THE GREAT GLACIER MONSTER. A SUPER-HUMAN TASK, BUT TO FLASH, SIMPLER THAN THE PROBLEM OF A WOMAN'S EMOTIONS!
—NEXT WEEK—
THE FIRST SKIRMISH

KORRO CALLS A COUNCIL OF WAR—"THE MONSTER'S TREMENDOUS ELECTRIC CHARGE RENDERS OUR RAY GUNS USELESS - WE ARE HELPLESS WITHOUT THE EQUIPMENT WE ABANDONED WHEN WE FLED TO THESE CAVES." FLASH SPEAKS—"THEN SOMEONE MUST GET THROUGH AND BRING THAT STUFF BACK HERE!"

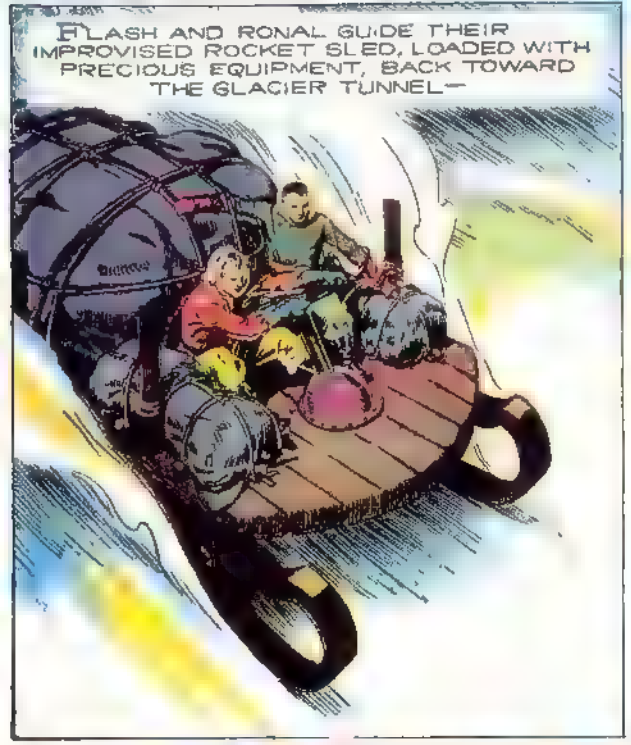

KORRO SPEAKS WITH POLITE SARCASM—"NOTHING TO IT, MY DEAR BOY—JUST GET THROUGH THE ICE-CHOKED BACK TUNNEL, PUSH PAST THIS COLOSSAL MONSTER, AND THEN RETURN TO US, LOADED DOWN WITH HUNDREDS OF POUNDS OF EQUIPMENT—EASY FOR THE GREAT FLASH GORDON, EH?" "NOT EASY," RETURNS FLASH EVENLY, "BUT POSSIBLE, MY DEAR COUNT!"

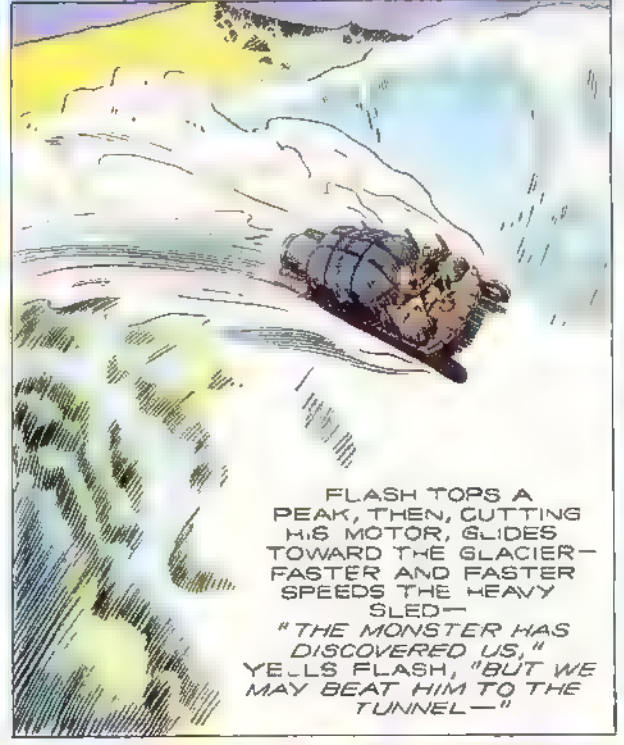
HOURS LATER, FLASH AND RONAL, WHO INSISTED ON ACCOMPANYING HIM, HAVE BURNED THROUGH THE ICE BARRIER TO THE REAR ENTRANCE OF THE GLACIER. "I HOPE OUR FRIEND IS STILL GUARDING THE RIVER ENTRANCE," REMARKS FLASH.

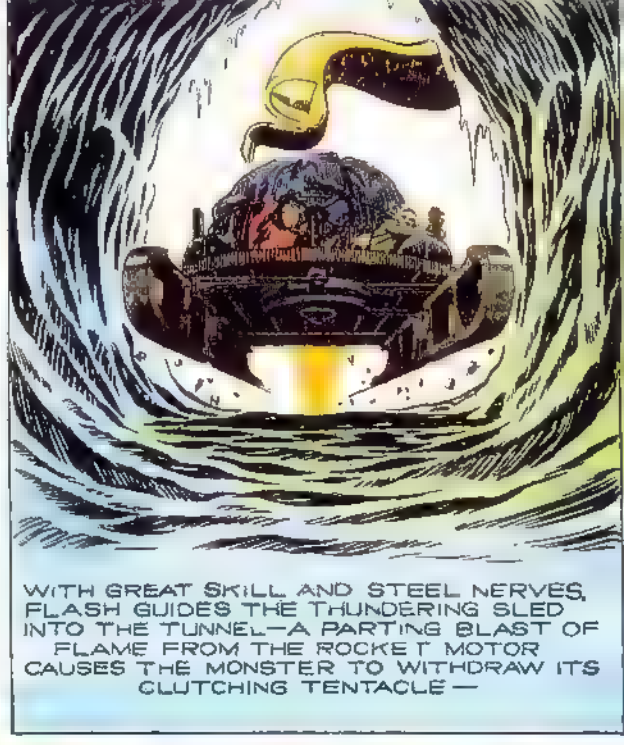

LUCK IS WITH THEM—FROM A NEARBY HILL, THEY SEE THE GROSS, SPRAWLING MASS OF THE MONSTER, HUGGING THE TOP OF THE GLACIER, WAITING TO POUNCE ON WHOEVER TRIES TO ESCAPE BY WAY OF THE RIVER ENTRANCE.


UPON REACHING THE OLD CAMP, THEY SET TO WORK IMMEDIATELY. THEY UNCOVER A SPARE ROCKET MOTOR AND BOLT IT TO THE REAR OF THE SLEDGE—THEN THEY SALVAGE ONLY THE MOST VALUABLE FOOD AND EQUIPMENT AND LASH IT IN PLACE.
13-3

FINALLY, JUST BEFORE DAWN, THE IMPROVISED ROCKET SLED ROARS OFF ON THE RETURN JOURNEY. FLASH YELLS IN RONAL'S EAR—"IF OUR LUCK ONLY HOLDS—!"
NEXT WEEK—THE AIR CHAMBER—

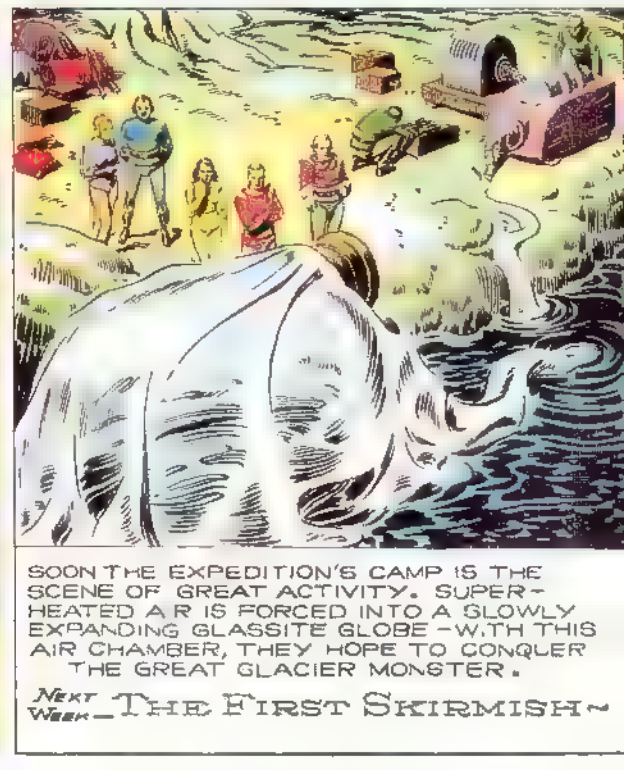

FLASH AND RONAL GUIDE THEIR IMPROVISED ROCKET SLED, LOADED WITH PRECIOUS EQUIPMENT, BACK TOWARD THE GLACIER TUNNEL—

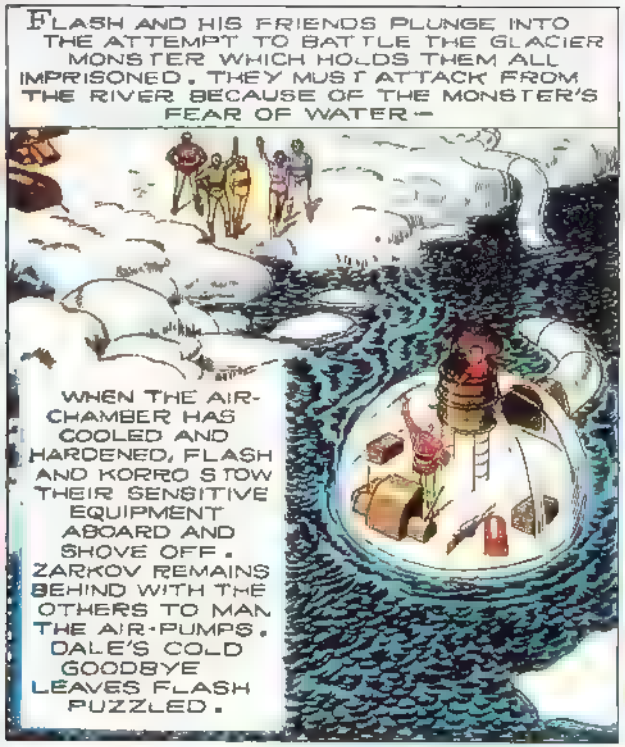

FLASH TOPS A PEAK, THEN, CUTTING HIS MOTOR, GLIDES TOWARD THE GLACIER—FASTER AND FASTER SPEEDS THE HEAVY SLED—
"THE MONSTER HAS DISCOVERED US," YELLS FLASH, "BUT WE MAY BEAT HIM TO THE TUNNEL—"

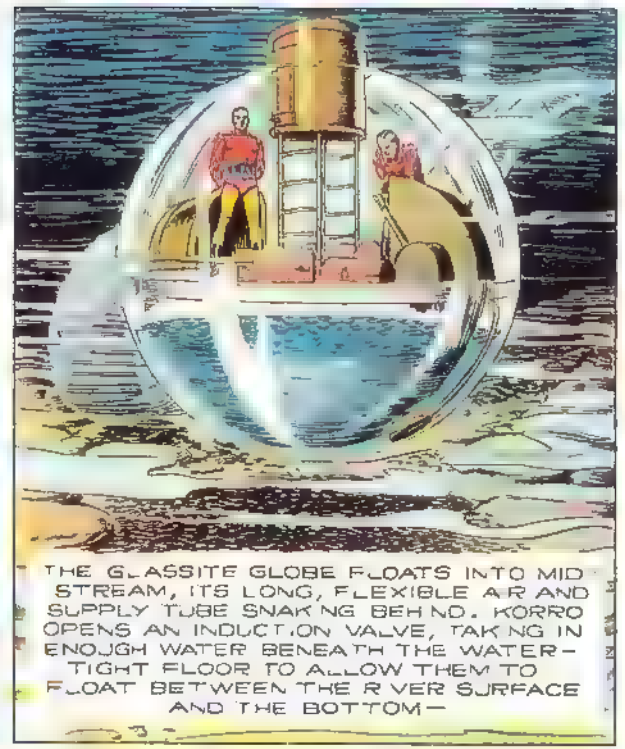

WITH GREAT SKILL AND STEEL NERVES, FLASH GUIDES THE THUNDERING SLED INTO THE TUNNEL—A PARTING BLAST OF FLAME FROM THE ROCKET MOTOR CAUSES THE MONSTER TO WITHDRAW ITS CLUTCHING TENTACLE—

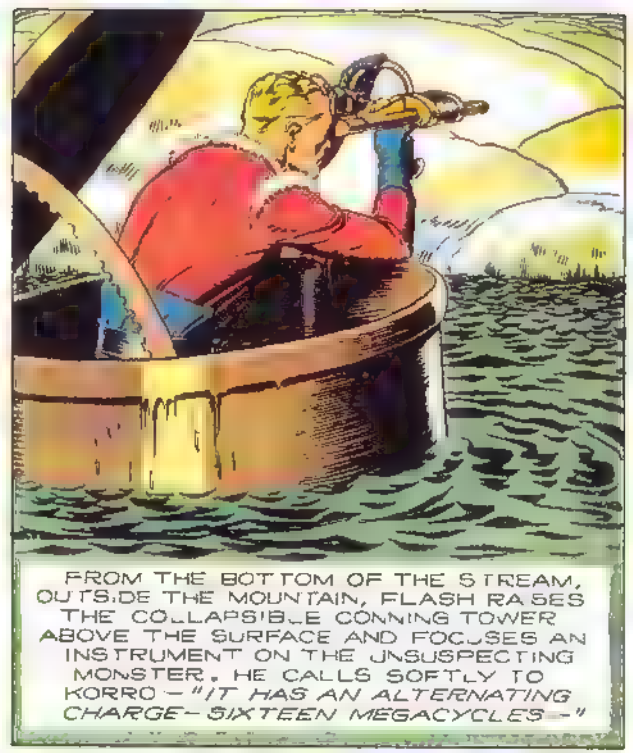
UNABLE TO CHECK THE SPEEDING SLED, FLASH AND RONAL JUMP—THERE IS A TERRIFIC CRASH—

FLASH LIFTS THE STUNNED PRINCE TO HIS SHOULDERS AND CONTINUES HIS JOURNEY AFOOT, CALLING TO HIS FRIENDS, WHO ANXIOUSLY AWAIT HIS RETURN.
12-10

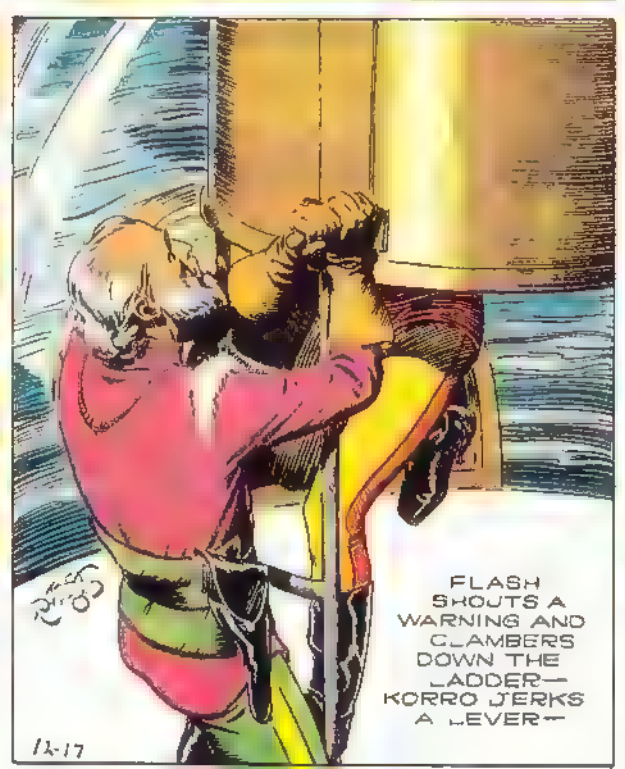

SOON THE EXPEDITION'S CAMP IS THE SCENE OF GREAT ACTIVITY. SUPER-HEATED AIR IS FORCED INTO A SLOWLY EXPANDING GLASSITE GLOBE—WITH THIS AIR CHAMBER, THEY HOPE TO CONQUER THE GREAT GLACIER MONSTER.
NEXT WEEK—THE FIRST SKIRMISH—

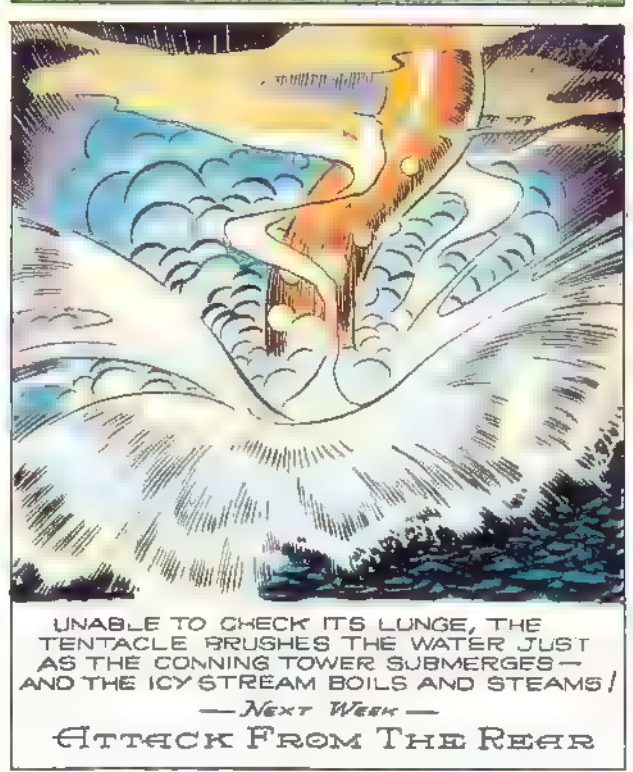

FLASH AND HIS FRIENDS PLUNGE INTO THE ATTEMPT TO BATTLE THE GLACIER MONSTER WHICH HOLDS THEM ALL IMPRISONED. THEY MUST ATTACK FROM THE RIVER BECAUSE OF THE MONSTER'S FEAR OF WATER—
WHEN THE AIR-CHAMBER HAS COOLED AND HARDENED, FLASH AND KORRO STOW THEIR SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT ABOARD AND SHOVE OFF. ZARKOV REMAINS BEHIND WITH THE OTHERS TO MAN THE AIR-PUMPS. DALE'S COLD GOODBYE LEAVES FLASH PUZZLED.

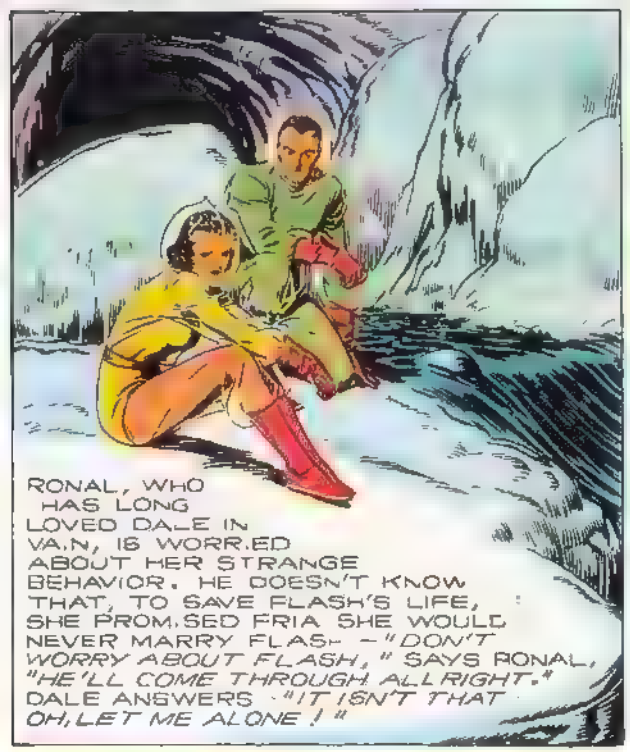

THE GLASSITE GLOBE FLOATS INTO MID STREAM, ITS LONG, FLEXIBLE AIR AND SUPPLY TUBE SNAKING BEHIND. KORRO OPENS AN INDUCTION VALVE, TAKING IN ENOUGH WATER BENEATH THE WATER-TIGHT FLOOR TO ALLOW THEM TO FLOAT BETWEEN THE RIVER SURFACE AND THE BOTTOM—


FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE STREAM, OUTSIDE THE MOUNTAIN, FLASH RAISES THE COLLAPSIBLE CONNING TOWER ABOVE THE SURFACE AND FOCUSES AN INSTRUMENT ON THE UNSUSPECTING MONSTER. HE CALLS SOFTLY TO KORRO—"IT HAS AN ALTERNATING CHARGE—SIXTEEN MEGACYCLES—"

AT THAT MOMENT, THE DREAD MONSTER DISCOVERS THE INTRUDERS AND STRIKES LIKE LIGHTNING!


FLASH SHOUTS A WARNING AND CLAMBERS DOWN THE LADDER—KORRO JERKS A LEVER—
12-17

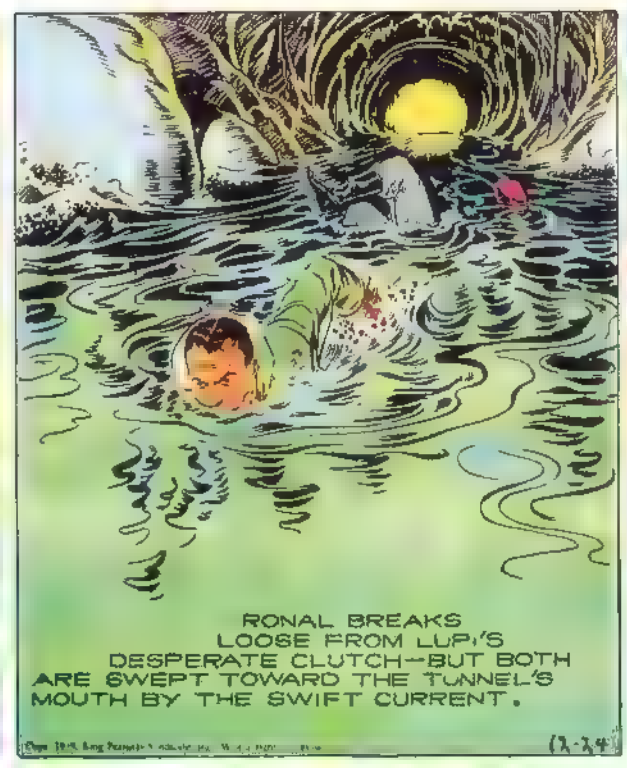

UNABLE TO CHECK ITS LUNGE, THE TENTACLE BRUSHES THE WATER JUST AS THE CONNING TOWER SUBMERGES—AND THE ICY STREAM BOILS AND STEAMS!
—NEXT WEEK—
ATTACK FROM THE REAR

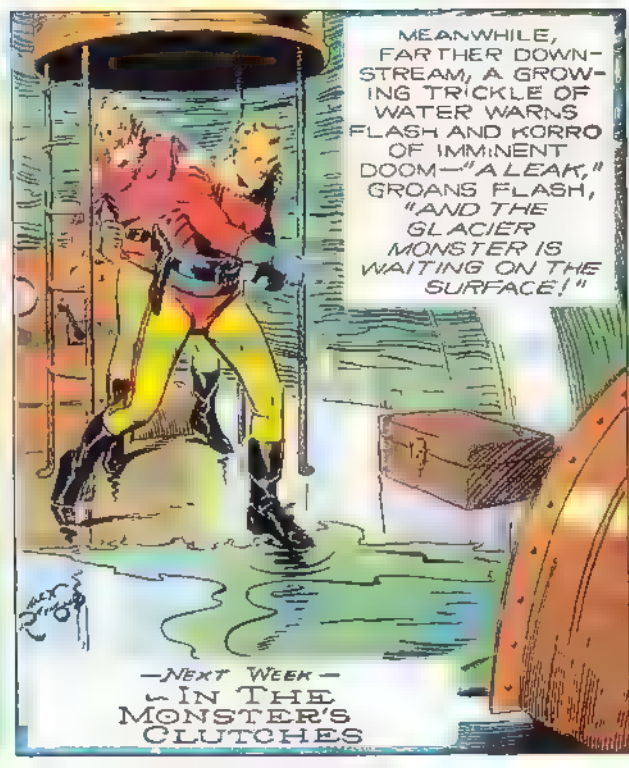

RONAL, WHO HAS LONG LOVED DALE IN VAIN, IS WORRIED ABOUT HER STRANGE BEHAVIOR. HE DOESN'T KNOW THAT, TO SAVE FLASH'S LIFE, SHE PROMISED FRIA SHE WOULD NEVER MARRY FLASH — "DON'T WORRY ABOUT FLASH," SAYS RONAL, "HE'LL COME THROUGH ALL RIGHT." DALE ANSWERS — "IT ISN'T THAT — OH, LET ME ALONE!"

HURT, RONAL WALKS DOWN-STREAM. HE STOPS IN HIS TRACKS, AS AHEAD, HE SEES LUPI FURTIVELY AIMING HIS RAY GUN. SUDDENLY, RONAL GUESSES THE SINISTER CAPTAIN'S INTENTIONS.

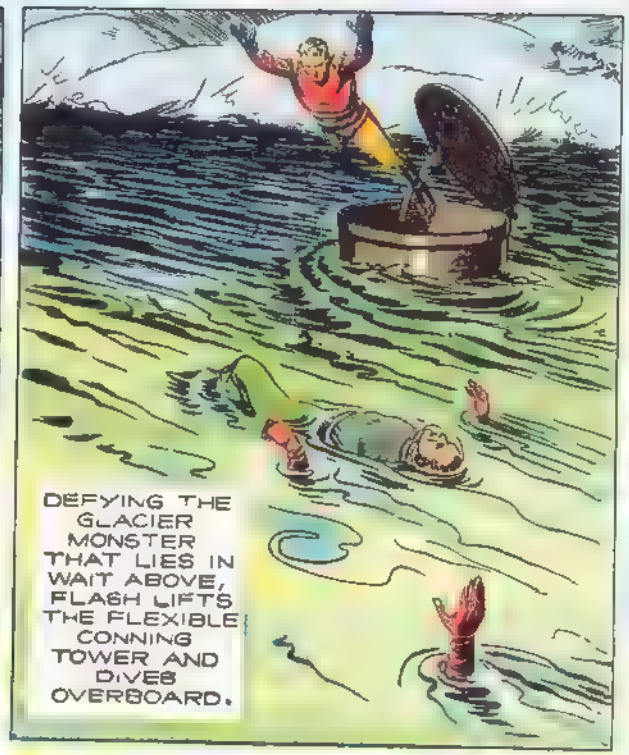
LUPI, KNOWING FLASH AND KORRO ARE UNDER WATER AT THE END OF THE GLASSITE TUBE, SEIZES THE CHANCE FOR REVENGE. WITH A YELL, RONAL DASHES FORWARD—

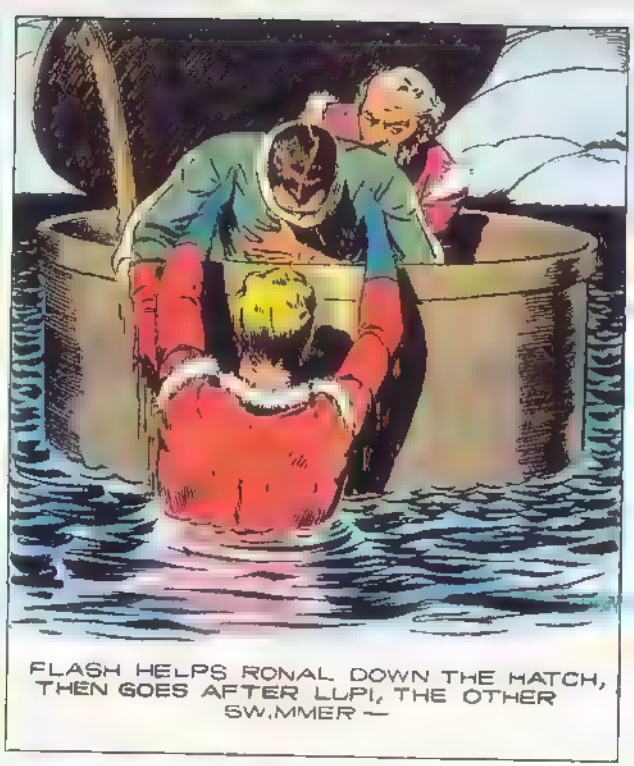
UNARMED, RONAL FLINGS HIMSELF ON LUPI — BOTH TOPPLE INTO THE ICY STREAM—


RONAL BREAKS LOOSE FROM LUPI'S DESPERATE CLUTCH — BUT BOTH ARE SWEPT TOWARD THE TUNNEL'S MOUTH BY THE SWIFT CURRENT.

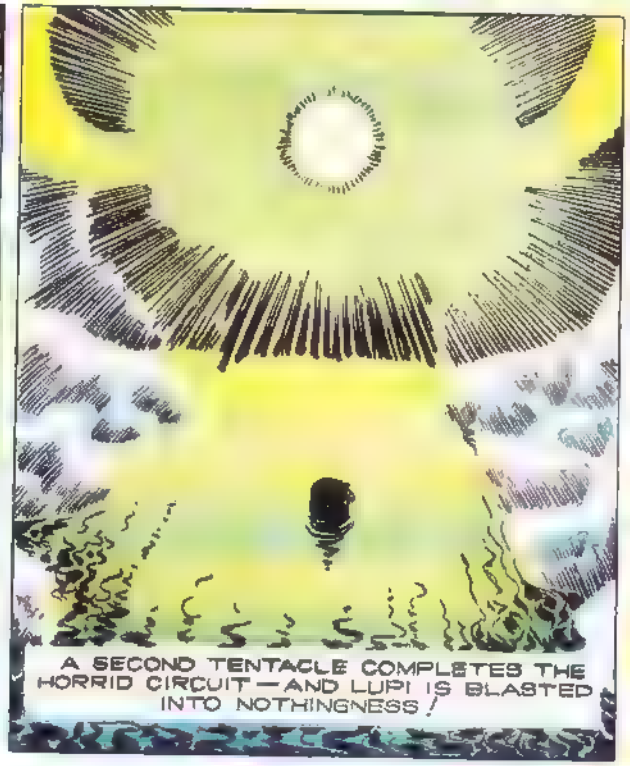

MEANWHILE, FARTHER DOWN-STREAM, A GROWING TRICKLE OF WATER WARNS FLASH AND KORRO OF IMMINENT DOOM — "A LEAK," GROANS FLASH, "AND THE GLACIER MONSTER IS WAITING ON THE SURFACE!"
—NEXT WEEK—
IN THE MONSTER'S CLUTCHES

AS THE WATER RISES IN THE SUBMARINE CHAMBER, FLASH SEES TWO BODIES FLOATING IN THE GLACIER STREAM.

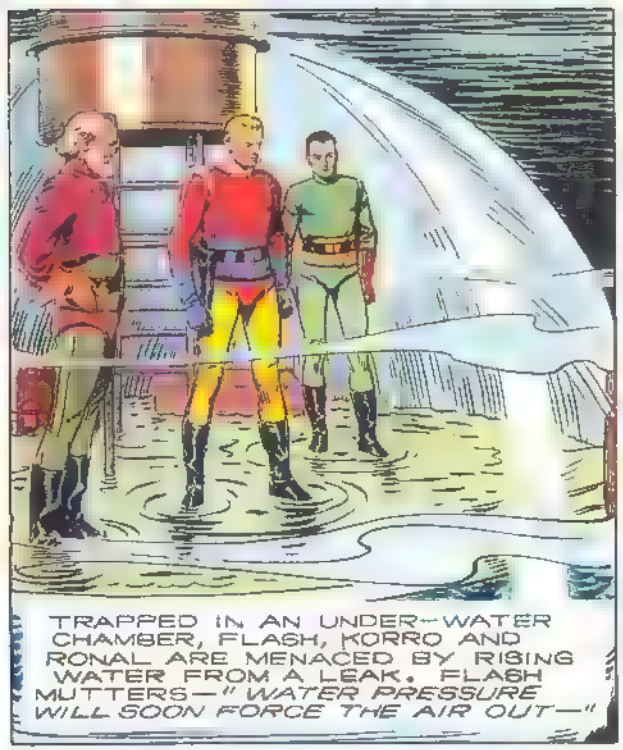

DEFYING THE GLACIER MONSTER THAT LIES IN WAIT ABOVE, FLASH LIFTS THE FLEXIBLE CONNING TOWER AND DIVES OVERBOARD.

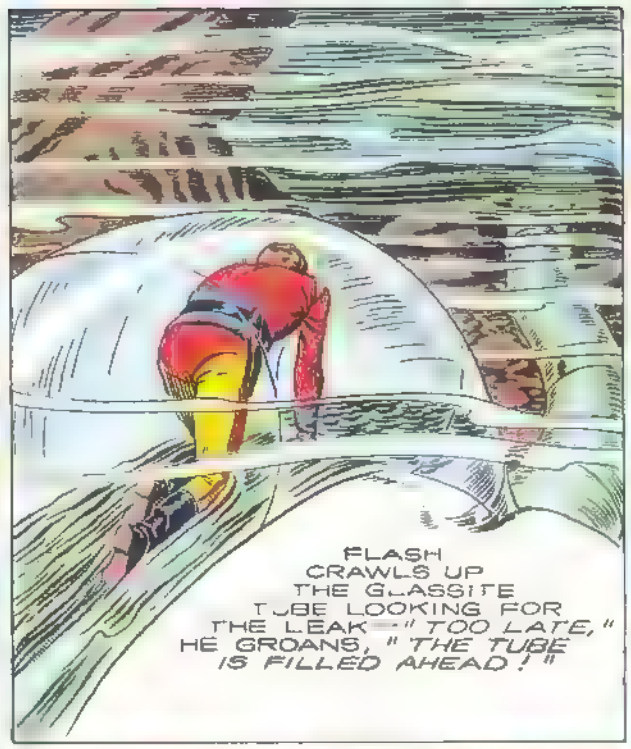

FLASH HELPS RONAL DOWN THE HATCH, THEN GOES AFTER LUPI, THE OTHER SWIMMER —

BUT THE GLACIER MONSTER GETS THERE FIRST!

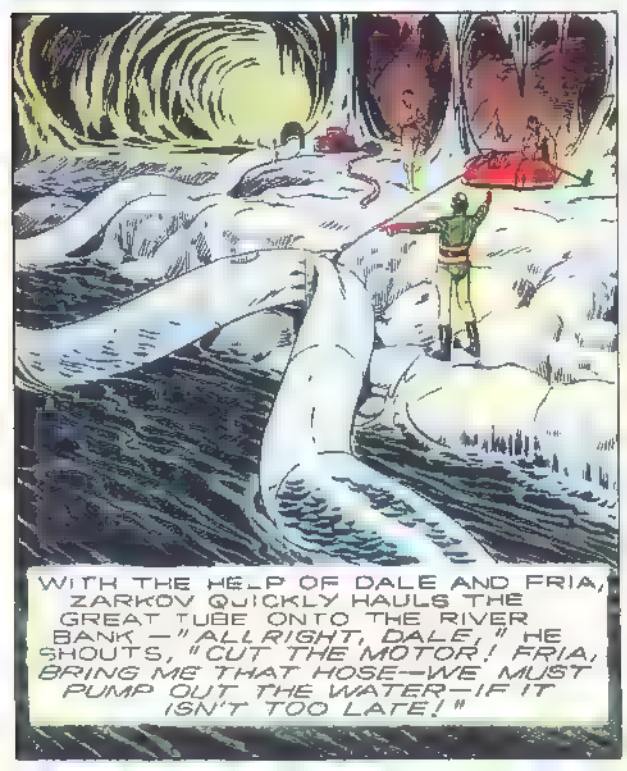

A SECOND TENTACLE COMPLETES THE HORRID CIRCUIT — AND LUPI IS BLASTED INTO NOTHINGNESS!

UNABLE TO HELP, HORROR-STRICKEN FLASH SEEKS HIS UNDERWATER REFUGE.
— NEXT WEEK —
WATERY DOOM


TRAPPED IN AN UNDER-WATER CHAMBER, FLASH, KORRO AND RONAL ARE MENACED BY RISING WATER FROM A LEAK. FLASH MUTTERS—"WATER PRESSURE WILL SOON FORCE THE AIR OUT—"

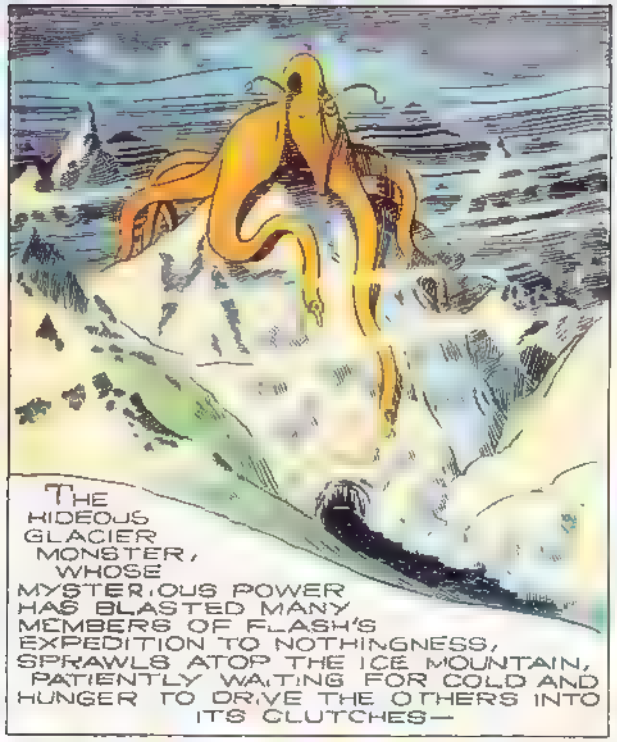

FLASH CRAWLS UP THE GLASSITE TUBE LOOKING FOR THE LEAK—"TOO LATE," HE GROANS, "THE TUBE IS FILLED AHEAD!"

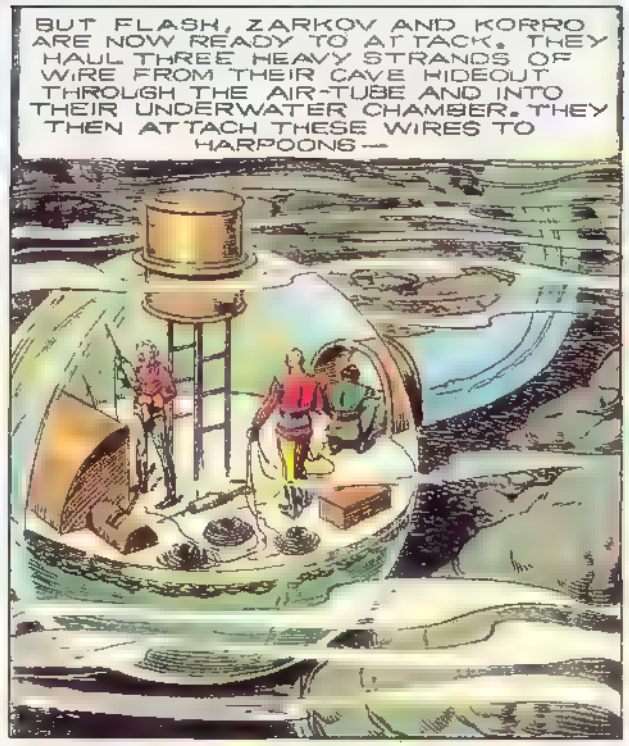
BUT DALE NOTICES THE TELL-TALE SWIRL OF WATER, INDICATING THE LEAK—"HE'LL DROWN!" SHE GASPS, "FLASH WILL DROWN! I'VE GOT TO TELL ZARKOV!"

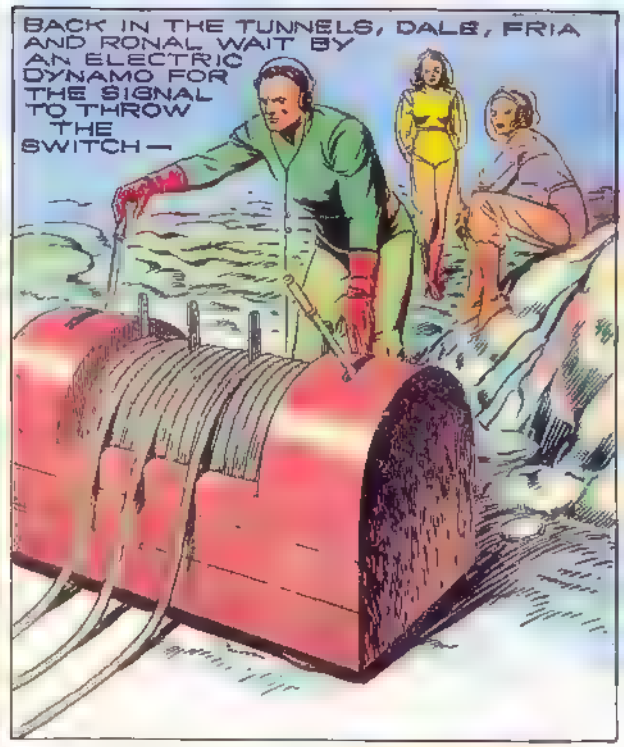

WITH THE HELP OF DALE AND FRIA, ZARKOV QUICKLY HAULS THE GREAT TUBE ONTO THE RIVER BANK—"ALLRIGHT, DALE," HE SHOUTS, "CUT THE MOTOR! FRIA, BRING ME THAT HOSE—WE MUST PUMP OUT THE WATER—IF IT ISN'T TOO LATE!"

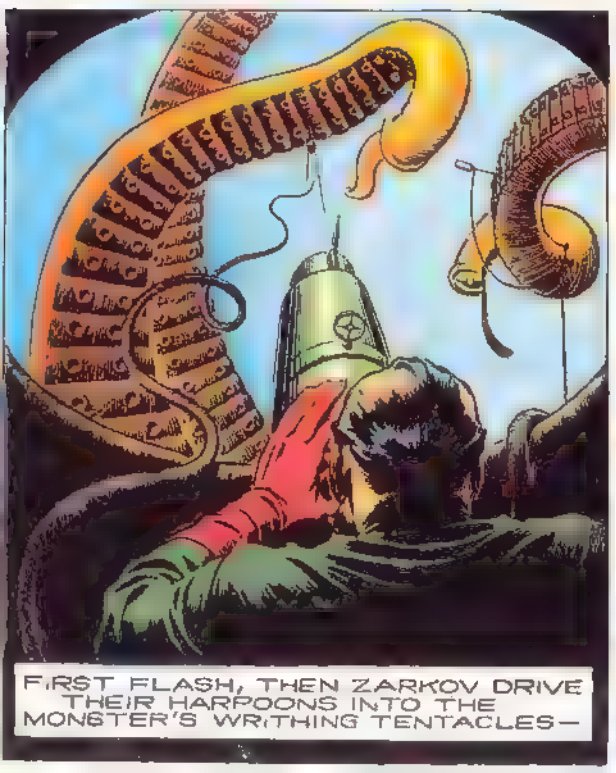
LATER, THE MEN CRAWL UP THE TUBE TO SAFETY. FLASH THANKS ZARKOV, THEN ASKS—"BUT WHAT'S WRONG WITH DALE? FUNNY, SHE DOESN'T COME TO GREET—OH! I SEE—"

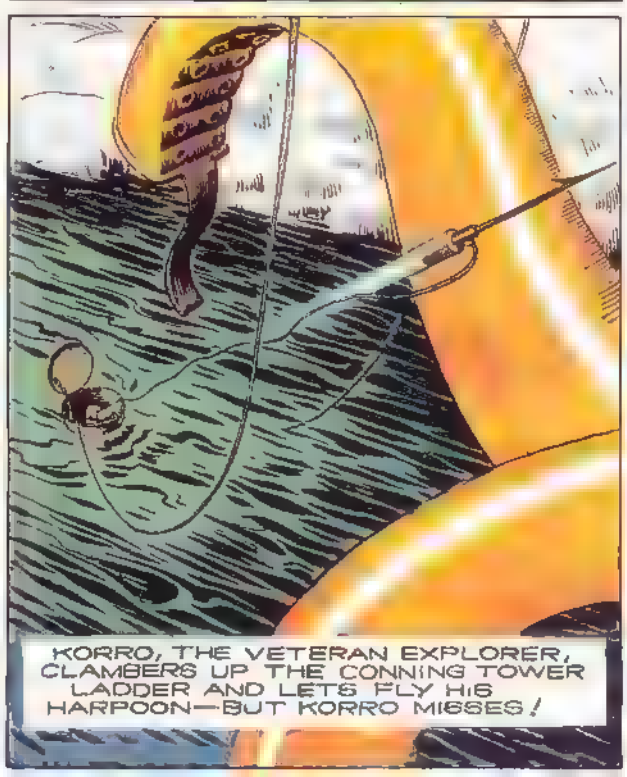
FOR DALE, UPON SEEING FLASH EMERGE SAFELY, TURNS, SOBBING INTO RONAL'S ARMS. FLASH DOESN'T KNOW THAT SHE HAD TO PROMISE FRIA TO GIVE HIM UP—"POOR GIRL," SOOTHES RONAL, "IT'S ALLRIGHT—HE'S SAFE!"
—NEXT WEEK—
A GAMBLE WITH DEATH

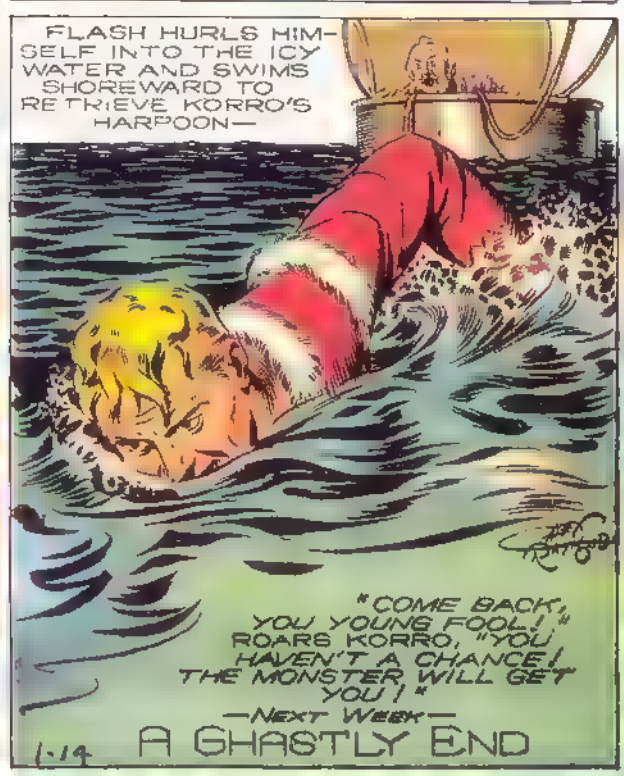

THE HIDEOUS GLACIER MONSTER, WHOSE MYSTERIOUS POWER HAS BLASTED MANY MEMBERS OF FLASH'S EXPEDITION TO NOTHINGNESS, SPRAWLS ATOP THE ICE MOUNTAIN, PATIENTLY WAITING FOR COLD AND HUNGER TO DRIVE THE OTHERS INTO ITS CLUTCHES—

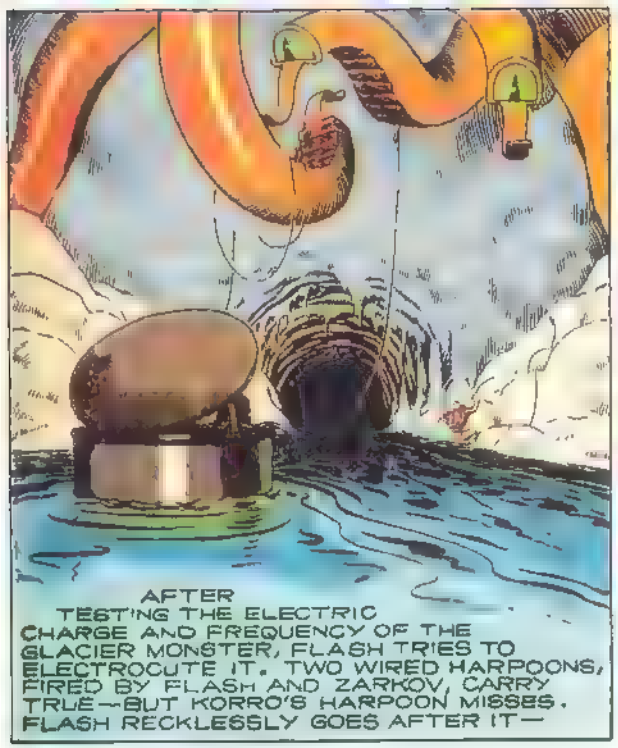

BUT FLASH, ZARKOV AND KORRO ARE NOW READY TO ATTACK. THEY HAUL THREE HEAVY STRANDS OF WIRE FROM THEIR CAVE HIDEOUT THROUGH THE AIR-TUBE AND INTO THEIR UNDERWATER CHAMBER. THEY THEN ATTACH THESE WIRES TO HARPOONS—

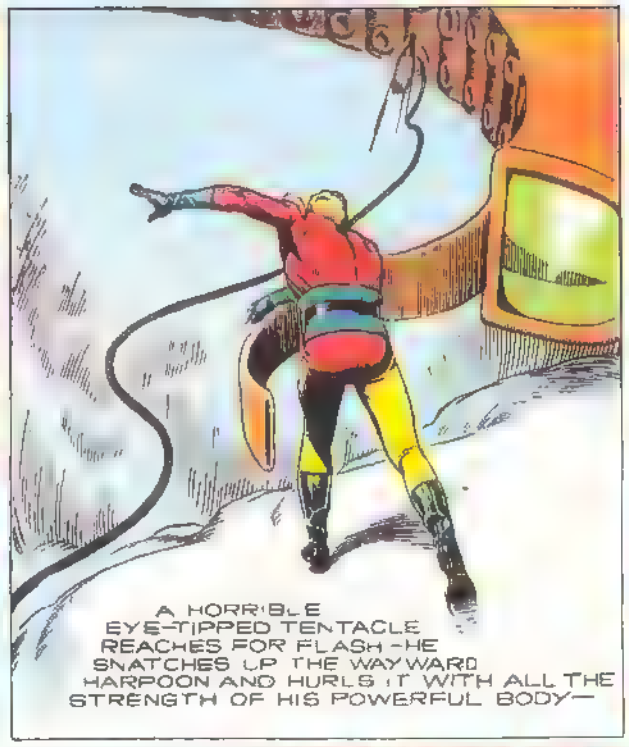

BACK IN THE TUNNELS, DALE, FRIA AND RONAL WAIT BY AN ELECTRIC DYNAMO FOR THE SIGNAL TO THROW THE SWITCH—


FIRST FLASH, THEN ZARKOV DRIVE THEIR HARPOONS INTO THE MONSTER'S WRITHING TENTACLES—

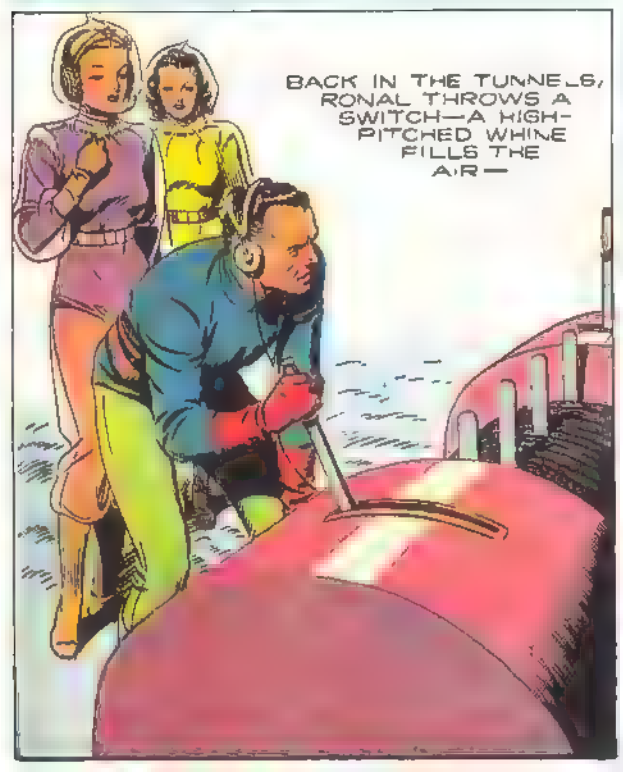

KORRO, THE VETERAN EXPLORER, CLAMBERS UP THE CONNING TOWER LADDER AND LETS FLY HIS HARPOON—BUT KORRO MISSES!

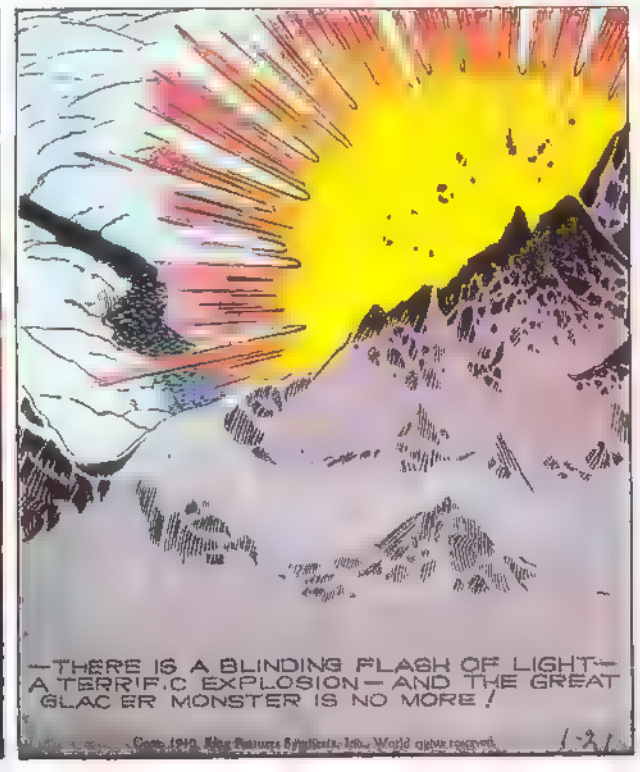

FLASH HURLS HIMSELF INTO THE ICY WATER AND SWIMS SHOREWARD TO RETRIEVE KORRO'S HARPOON—
"COME BACK, YOU YOUNG FOOL!" ROARS KORRO, "YOU HAVEN'T A CHANCE! THE MONSTER WILL GET YOU!"
—NEXT WEEK—
A GHASTLY END
1-14


AFTER TESTING THE ELECTRIC CHARGE AND FREQUENCY OF THE GLACIER MONSTER, FLASH TRIES TO ELECTROCUTE IT. TWO WIRED HARPOONS, FIRED BY FLASH AND ZARKOV, CARRY TRUE—BUT KORRO'S HARPOON MISSES. FLASH RECKLESSLY GOES AFTER IT—

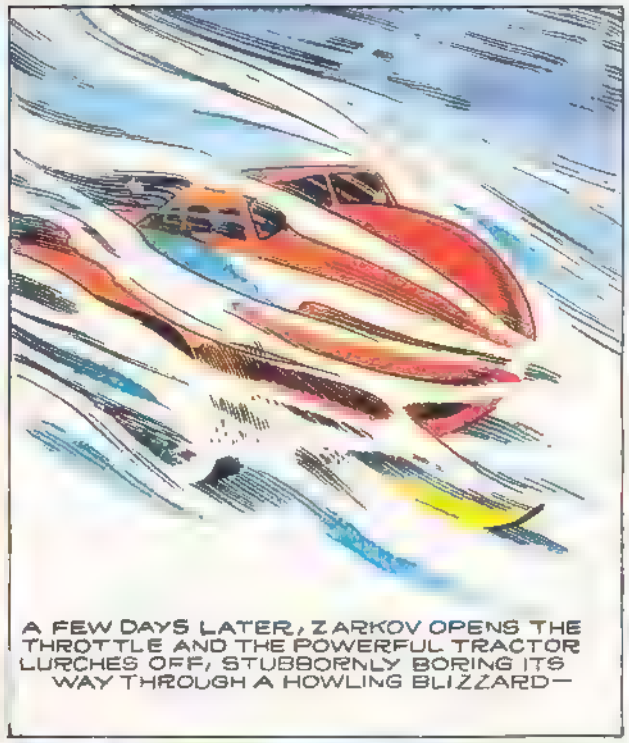

A HORRIBLE EYE-TIPPED TENTACLE REACHES FOR FLASH—HE SNATCHES UP THE WAYWARD HARPOON AND HURLS IT WITH ALL THE STRENGTH OF HIS POWERFUL BODY—

WHEN FLASH'S WEAPON STRIKES ITS MARK, KORRO YELLS DOWN TO ZARKOV, WHO SPEAKS INTO A TRANSMITTER—
"ALL RIGHT, RONAL—LET HIM HAVE IT!"


BACK IN THE TUNNELS, RONAL THROWS A SWITCH—A HIGH-PITCHED WHINE FILLS THE AIR—


—THERE IS A BLINDING FLASH OF LIGHT—A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION—AND THE GREAT GLACIER MONSTER IS NO MORE!

FLASH IS LIFTED AND HURLED INTO A SNOW-BANK ACROSS THE RIVER—HIS CLOTHING TORN TO SHREDS BY THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION—
"HEY, ZARKOV," HE BELLOWS, "I'M IN A BAD WAY—GET ME ANOTHER PAIR OF PANTS—QUICK!"
NEXT WEEK— FLASH REBELS



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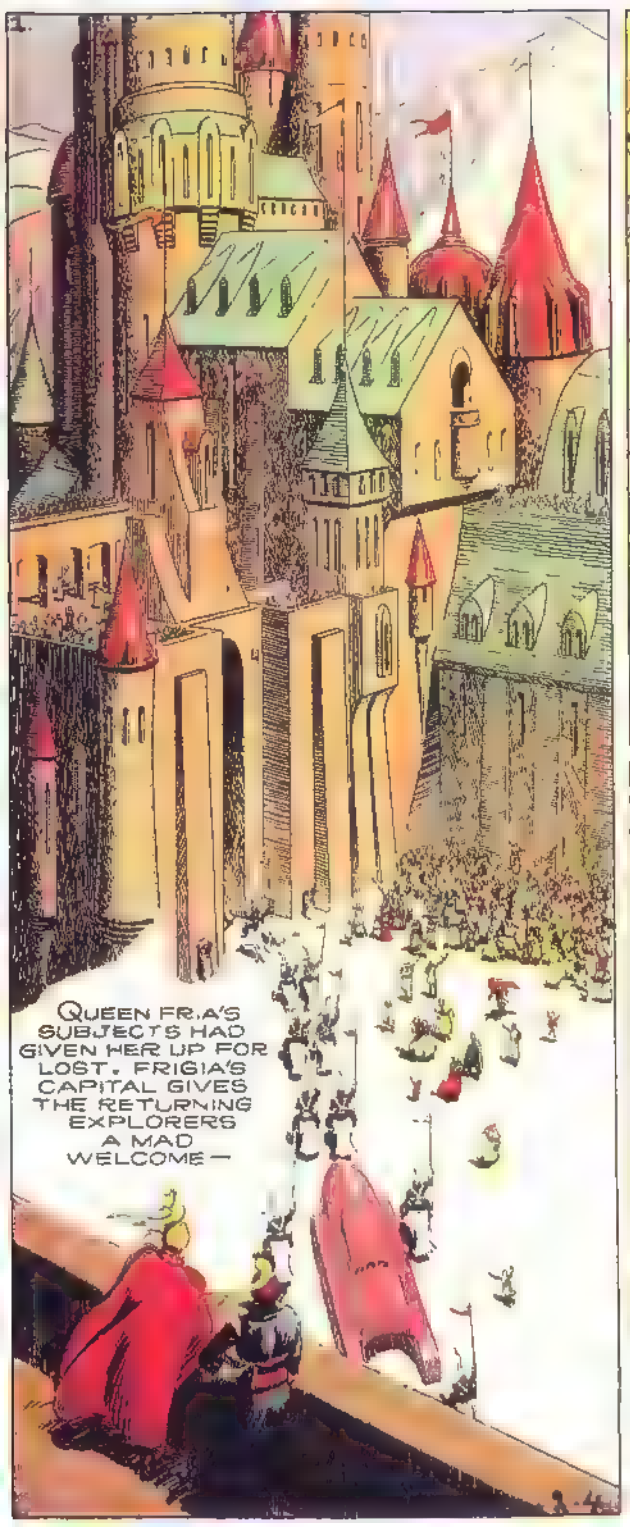
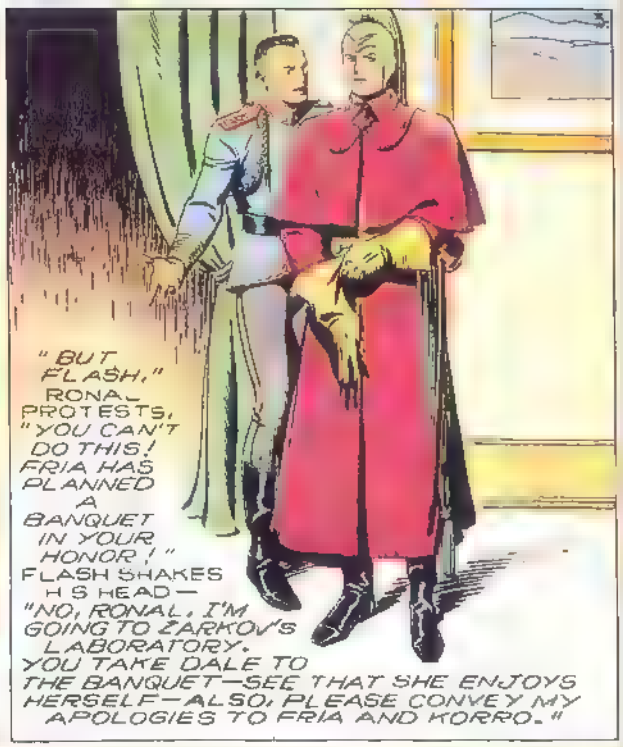

1.
QUEEN FRIA'S SUBJECTS HAD GIVEN HER UP FOR LOST. FRIGIA'S CAPITAL GIVES THE RETURNING EXPLORERS A MAD WELCOME—

2
CRUSHED BY DALE'S APPARENT CHANGE OF HEART, FLASH GOES STRAIGHT TO HIS ROOM. HE DOES NOT KNOW THAT DALE AND FRIA HAVE BOTH SWORN TO GIVE HIM UP—


3.
"BUT FLASH," RONAL PROTESTS, "YOU CAN'T DO THIS! FRIA HAS PLANNED A BANQUET IN YOUR HONOR!"
FLASH SHAKES HIS HEAD—
"NO, RONAL, I'M GOING TO ZARKOV'S LABORATORY. YOU TAKE DALE TO THE BANQUET—SEE THAT SHE ENJOYS HERSELF—ALSO, PLEASE CONVEY MY APOLOGIES TO FRIA AND KORRO."

4
A LITTLE LATER, FLASH, MOUNTED ON A SUPERB SNOWBIRD, GALLOPS THROUGH THE PALACE GATE, BOUND FOR THE WIND-SWEPT HEIGHTS WHERE PERCHES ZARKOV'S LABORATORY—
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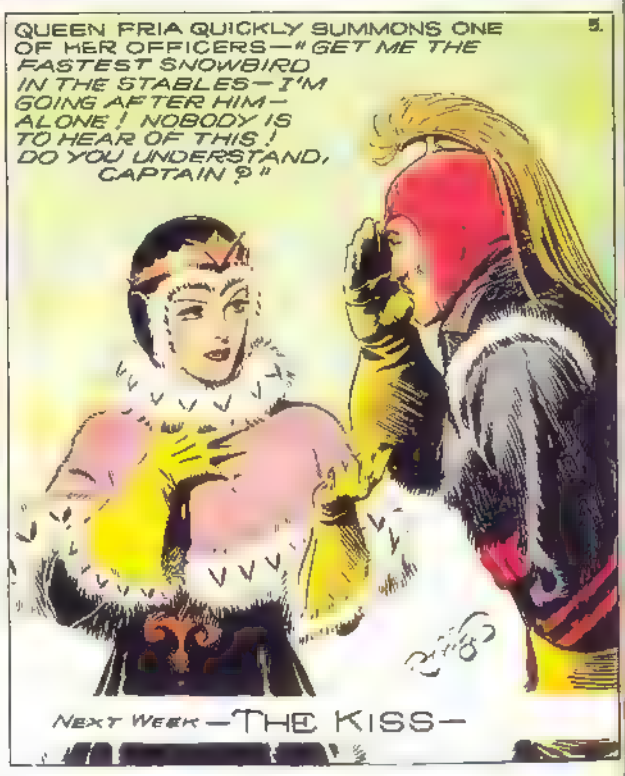
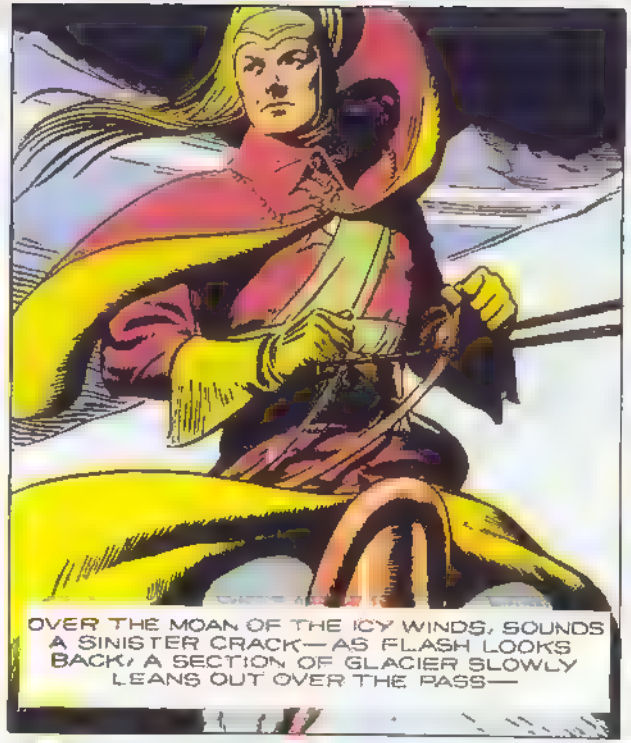
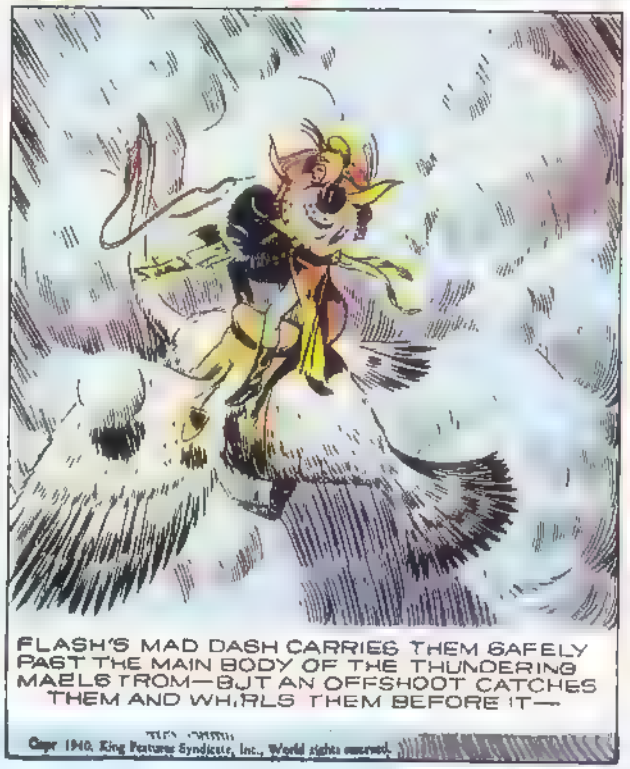

5.
QUEEN FRIA QUICKLY SUMMONS ONE OF HER OFFICERS—"GET ME THE FASTEST SNOWBIRD IN THE STABLES—I'M GOING AFTER HIM—ALONE! NOBODY IS TO HEAR OF THIS! DO YOU UNDERSTAND, CAPTAIN?"
NEXT WEEK—THE KISS—





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THINKING THAT DALE NO LONGER LOVES HIM, FLASH SETS OUT FOR ZARKOV'S LABORATORY WITH QUEEN FRIA IN PURSUIT. HE SAVES HER FROM AN AVALANCHE AND, AT HER PLEA, CONSENTS TO MARRY HER—
ZARKOV, UP AT DAWN AS USUAL, IS BUSILY TAKING HIS OBSERVATIONS WHEN HE SEES TWO FIGURES STRUGGLING UP THE MOUNTAINSIDE— HE IDENTIFIES THEM AS FLASH AND FRIA—
HE HELPS THE HALF-FROZEN COUPLE INTO HIS COZY LABORATORY AND SOON REVIVES THEM WITH WARM FOOD AND DRINK. THEN, PUZZLED, HE ASKS—"WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE AT SUCH AN HOUR? WHERE IS DALE, FLASH? IS SOMETHING WRONG?"
"DALE NO LONGER CARES, ZARKOV," ANSWERS FLASH, "FRIA AND I ARE GOING TO BE MARRIED!" "NO!" CRIES ZARKOV, "NO FLASH! YOU'RE WRONG! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO DALE! WE'RE GOING BACK TO THE PALACE!"
BACK AT THE PALACE, KORRO STORMS—"EVEN IF YOU'VE FORGOTTEN YOUR ROYAL HONOR, I'LL NOT LET YOU BREAK YOUR VOW! FOR FRIGIA'S SAKE!" FRIA REPLIES—"YOU FORGET, I PROMISED THAT FLASH WOULD NEVER BE KING OF FRIGIA—NOT THAT I WOULD NEVER MARRY HIM. I SHALL ABDICATE!"
FURIOUS, DALE LEAPS AT FRIA— "YOU MISERABLE CHEAT! YOU TRICKED ME INTO PROMISING THAT I'D GIVE FLASH UP TO SAVE HIS LIFE!" SUDDENLY, FLASH KNOWS THE REASON FOR DALE'S COLDNESS TOWARD HIM—
WITH DALE SOBBING IN HIS ARMS, HE SPEAKS— "AND TO THINK THAT I DOUBTED DALE! ALTHOUGH I'M NOT WORTHY, I BEG HER FORGIVENESS. FRIA, I DEMAND THAT YOU RELEASE ME FROM MY PROMISE TO MARRY YOU!"
—NEXT WEEK—
FRIA'S FURY
2 18
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WHEN FLASH LEARNS HOW FRIA TRICKED DALE INTO GIVING HIM UP, HE DEMANDS THAT FRIA RELEASE HIM FROM HIS PROMISE TO MARRY HER—

ZARKOV STORMS INTO FRIA'S STUDY—
"GOOD HEAVEN, WOMAN, YOU CAN'T THROW FLASH INTO JAIL JUST BECAUSE HE LOVES DALE! IT'S SPITEFUL—SMALL—"
"ENOUGH, ZARKOV," INTERRUPTS FRIA, "HE HUMILIATED ME BEFORE MY COURT! "I'LL THANK YOU TO MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!"

BUT THAT NIGHT FRIA IS UNABLE TO SLEEP. HER OUTRAGED FURY GIVES WAY TO SHAME AND REMORSE. AS SHE MAKES HER WAY TO FLASH'S CELL, A CLOAKED FIGURE WATCHES FROM THE SHADOWS—

SHE UNLOCKS FLASH'S CELL DOOR—
"YOU'RE FREE, FLASH," SHE WHISPERS, "TAKE DALE AND GO—AND DON'T COME BACK—PLEASE! I—I COULD NEVER LET YOU GO AGAIN!" FLASH PRESSES HER HAND—"THANK YOU, FRIA—YOU'RE A QUEEN—IN EVERY WAY—"

FLASH HURRIES TO THE PALACE AND TELLS DALE THAT THEY MUST LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. "YOU GET READY," HE SAYS, "I'LL GET ZARKOV AND HAVE A ROCKET SLED OUTFITTED. I'LL BE BACK FOR YOU IN A HALF-HOUR."

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BUT FIRST,
FLASH REMOVES HIS CHAIN AND SEAL OF OFFICE FROM ABOUT HIS NECK AND LEAVES THEM ON RONAL'S DRESSER WITH A NOTE.
HE THEN WHISPERS TO HIS SLEEPING FRIEND—
"GOODBYE, COUNT RONAL—MAY YOU SOME DAY BE KING OF FRIGIA AND FRIA YOUR QUEEN! YOU DESERVE ONLY THE BEST!"

MEANWHILE, DALE GASPS AS A CLOAKED FIGURE STEPS QUICKLY INTO HER ROOM AND SNARLS—"QUIET, OR I'LL SHOOT! I ARREST YOU, DALE ARDEN, IN THE NAME OF HIS SUPREME INTELLIGENCE, MING, THE MERCILESS!"

—NEXT WEEK—
MAJOR GARAN

WHILE FLASH AND ZARKOV STOCK A ROCKET-SLED WITH FUEL AND PROVISIONS PREPARATORY TO LEAVING FRIGIA, A MAN, GARBED AS A FRIGIAN OFFICER, ENTERS DALE'S ROOM AND ARRESTS HER IN THE NAME OF MING, THE MERCILESS—

WHILE DALE SITS, PARALYZED WITH FEAR AND SURPRISE, THE MAN CONTINUES—"*I'M MAJOR GARAN, OF MING'S SECRET SERVICE—MY MEN HAVE ALSO CAPTURED FLASH GORDON—IF YOU SCREAM, THEY WILL KILL HIM AND I WILL KILL YOU!*"

DAZED BY THIS TRAGIC TURN OF EVENTS, DALE DONS HER FURS AND ALLOWS GARAN TO ESCORT HER FROM THE ROOM. SHE DOESN'T NOTICE THAT THE MAJOR DROPS HIS CARD-CASE ON THE FLOOR BEFORE CLOSING THE DOOR—

ONLY WHEN THEY REACH GARAN'S ICE-SLED, DOES DALE REALIZE THAT SHE HAS BEEN HOAXED—THAT FLASH HAS NOT BEEN CAPTURED! SHE SCREAMS! CURSING, GARAN CLAPS HIS HAND OVER HER MOUTH AND DRAGS HER TO THE SLED—

FLASH AND ZARKOV, THEIR PREPARATIONS COMPLETED, ARE RETURNING TO FRIA'S PALACE TO PICK UP DALE WHEN—"*THAT SCREAM!*" SAYS FLASH, "*IT SOUNDED LIKE DALE!*"

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IN DALE'S ROOM, FLASH FINDS THE CARD-CASE. HE TURNS PALE AND GROANS—"*GARAN, OF MING'S SECRET SERVICE, HAS DALE—WE'VE GOT TO CATCH THEM!*"

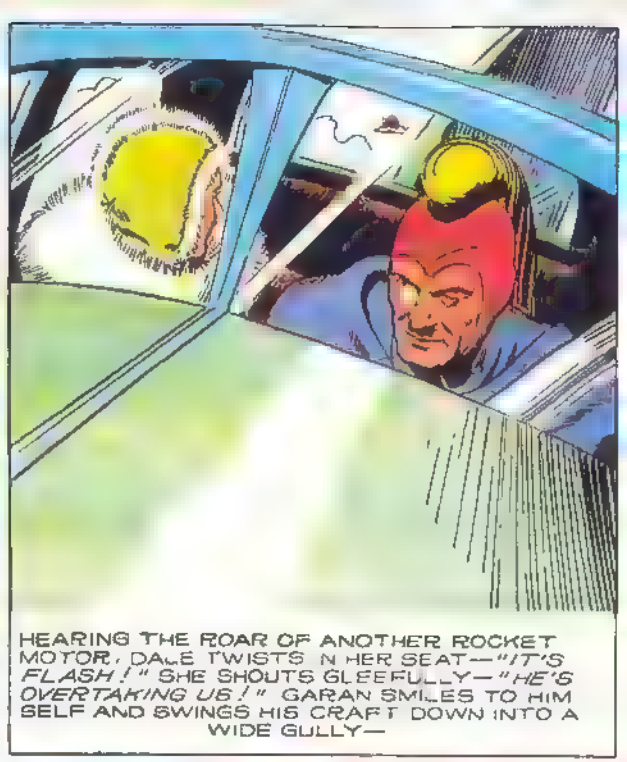
"*MING!*" BREATHES ZARKOV, "*IT'S A TRAP, SON—BUT I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!*"

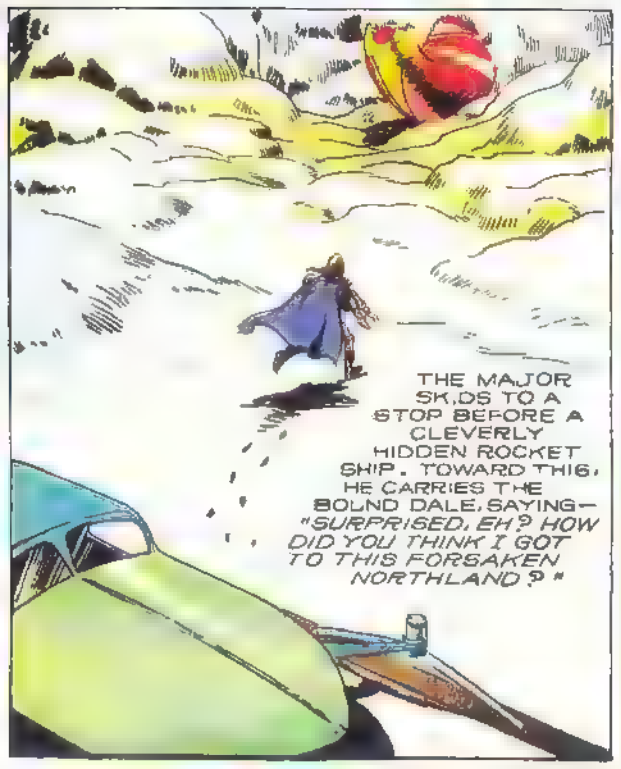
MAJOR GARAN, WITH A LONG START, IS ALREADY ROARING ACROSS THE FRIGIAN PLAINS, BOUND FOR THE CITY OF MINGO AND EMPEROR MING, THE MERCILESS TYRANT OF MONGO!

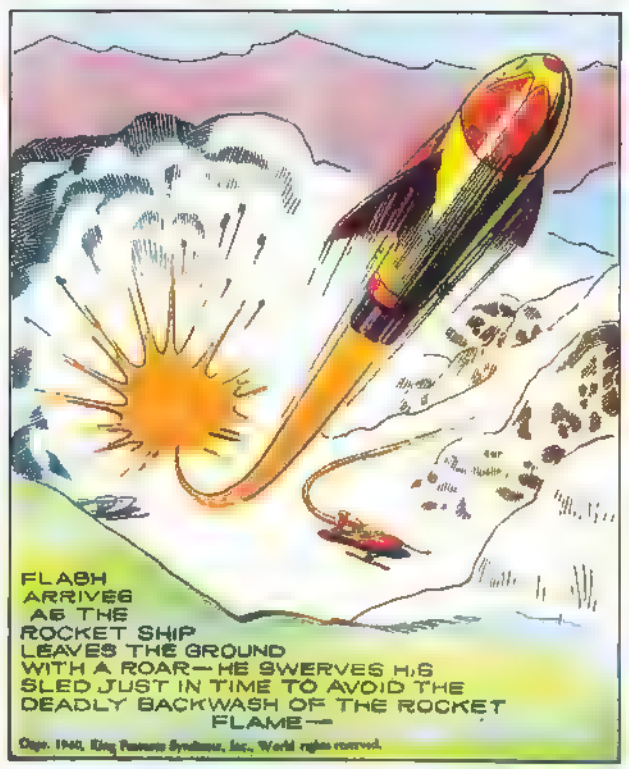
NEXT WEEK!— PURSUIT

MAJOR GARAN, OF MING'S SECRET SERVICE, HAS CAPTURED DALE AND IS TAKING HER TO MING THE MERCILESC
BUT ANOTHER ROCKET SLED ROARS OUT OF FRIGIA CARRYING FLASH AND ZARKOV, WHO ARE DETERMINED TO OVERTAKE GARAN OR DIE N THE ATTEMPT—

MUCH LATER, FLASH SHOUTS—"THERE HE IS, ZARKOV! AT THIS RATE, BARRING ACCIDENT, WE'LL CATCH THEM BEFORE NIGHTFALL!"


HEARING THE ROAR OF ANOTHER ROCKET MOTOR, DALE TWISTS N HER SEAT—"IT'S FLASH!" SHE SHOUTS GLEEFULLY—"HE'S OVERTAKING US!" GARAN SMILES TO HIM SELF AND SWINGS HIS CRAFT DOWN INTO A WIDE GULLY—


THE MAJOR SKIDS TO A STOP BEFORE A CLEVERLY HIDDEN ROCKET SHIP. TOWARD THIS, HE CARRIES THE BOUND DALE, SAYING—"SURPRISED, EH? HOW DID YOU THINK I GOT TO THIS FORSAKEN NORTHLAND?"


FLASH ARRIVES AS THE ROCKET SHIP LEAVES THE GROUND WITH A ROAR—HE SWERVES HIS SLED JUST IN TIME TO AVOID THE DEADLY BACKWASH OF THE ROCKET FLAME—
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HELPLESSLY, THEY WATCH THE SHIP VANISH INTO THE HEAVENS—THEN, SICK WITH DESPAIR, FLASH SINKS TO THE GROUND—ZARKOV GRIPS HIS SHOULDER AND SAYS NOTHING.
—NEXT WEEK—
ICE STORM
3 10

MAJOR GARAN, OF MING'S SECRET SERVICE, HAS ABDUCTED DALE AND IS NOW WINGING TOWARD THE CAPITAL OF MONGO—
AS THEY CROSS THE VAST MOUNTAIN RANGES THAT SEPARATE FRIGIA FROM THE REST OF MONGO, THEY RUN INTO THE FIERCE—ALMOST IMPASSABLE—ICE STORMS WHICH RAGE OVER THE TOWERING PEAKS—

DALE NAGS GARAN TO LOOSEN HER PAINFUL BONDS A LITTLE. GARAN WHIRLS ON HER IMPATIENTLY—"IF I DO, WILL YOU SHUT UP? WE'LL NEVER GET THROUGH THIS STORM, IF YOU KEEP BOTHERING ME!"

AS TIME PASSES, DALE WORKS FREE OF HER LOOSENED BONDS. SUDDENLY, SHE LEAPS FROM HER SEAT, SEIZES A WRENCH AND SWINGS AT GARAN'S HEAD—BUT THE MAJOR CATCHES THE BLOW ON HIS ARM—

GARAN HURLS HER TO THE FLOOR AND QUICKLY TRUSSES HER UP AGAIN. AS HE SCRAMBLES BACK UP TO THE COCKPIT, HE TURNS TO SNARL—"YOU SHE DEVIL!"
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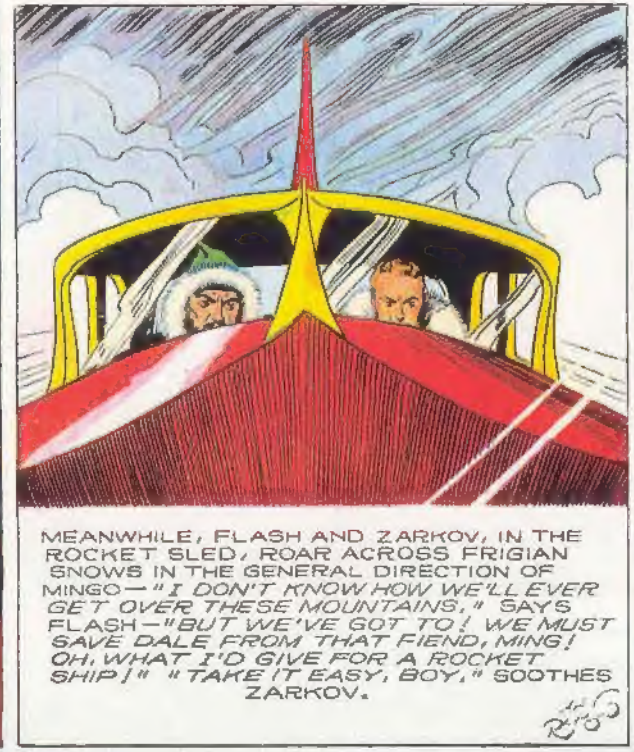
3-17

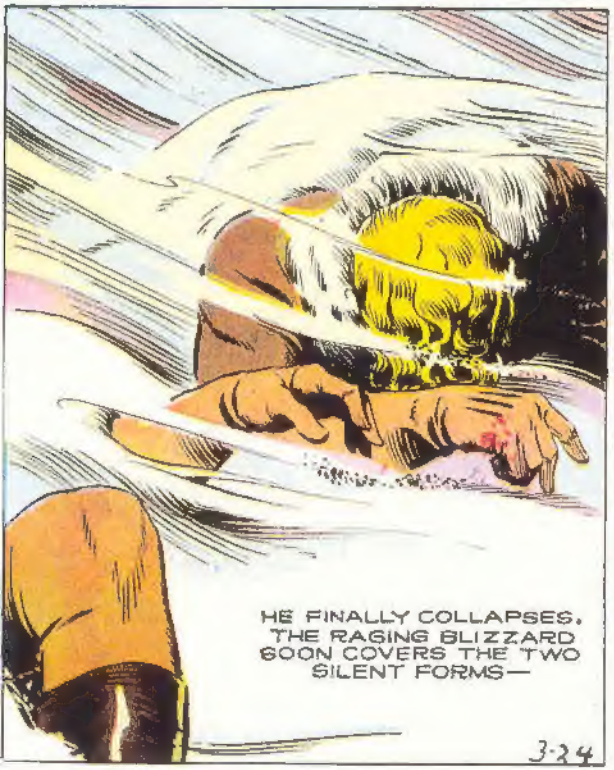

MEANWHILE, FLASH AND ZARKOV, IN THE ROCKET SLED, ROAR ACROSS FRIGIAN SNOWS IN THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF MINGO—"I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'LL EVER GET OVER THESE MOUNTAINS," SAYS FLASH—"BUT WE'VE GOT TO! WE MUST SAVE DALE FROM THAT FIEND, MING! OH, WHAT I'D GIVE FOR A ROCKET SHIP!" "TAKE IT EASY, BOY," SOOTHES ZARKOV.

ONCE AGAIN, FATE STRIKES FLASH A CRUEL BLOW—IN ROUNDING A LEDGE AT HIGH SPEED, HIS SLED STRIKES A SOFT SHOULDER AND HURTLES OVER THE CLIFF!
—NEXT WEEK—
FROZEN FATE

FLASH'S MAD DASH OVER THE STORMY MOUNTAINS OF FRIGIA TO RESCUE DALE, ENDS WHEN HIS ROCKET SLED SKIDS OVER A LEDGE AND CRASHES —
FOR A LONG TIME, THERE IS NO SIGN OF LIFE ABOUT THE WRECKAGE. FINALLY FLASH'S HEAD EMERGES —

DAZED AND STAGGERING, FLASH HAULS THE UNCONSCIOUS ZARKOV FROM THE WRECKAGE —

BUT SHOCK AND THE ICE STORM'S BITTER BLAST, SOON SAP EVEN FLASH'S GREAT STRENGTH — HIS LEGS GROW NUMB — HIS HEAD SWIMS —


HE FINALLY COLLAPSES. THE RAGING BLIZZARD SOON COVERS THE TWO SILENT FORMS —
3-24

MEANWHILE, GARAN'S ROCKET SHIP, WITH THE ABDUCTED DALE ABOARD, HAS SPANNED WHOLE CONTINENTS AND IS NOW WITHIN A FEW MINUTES OF MINGO, CAPITAL CITY OF MONGO —
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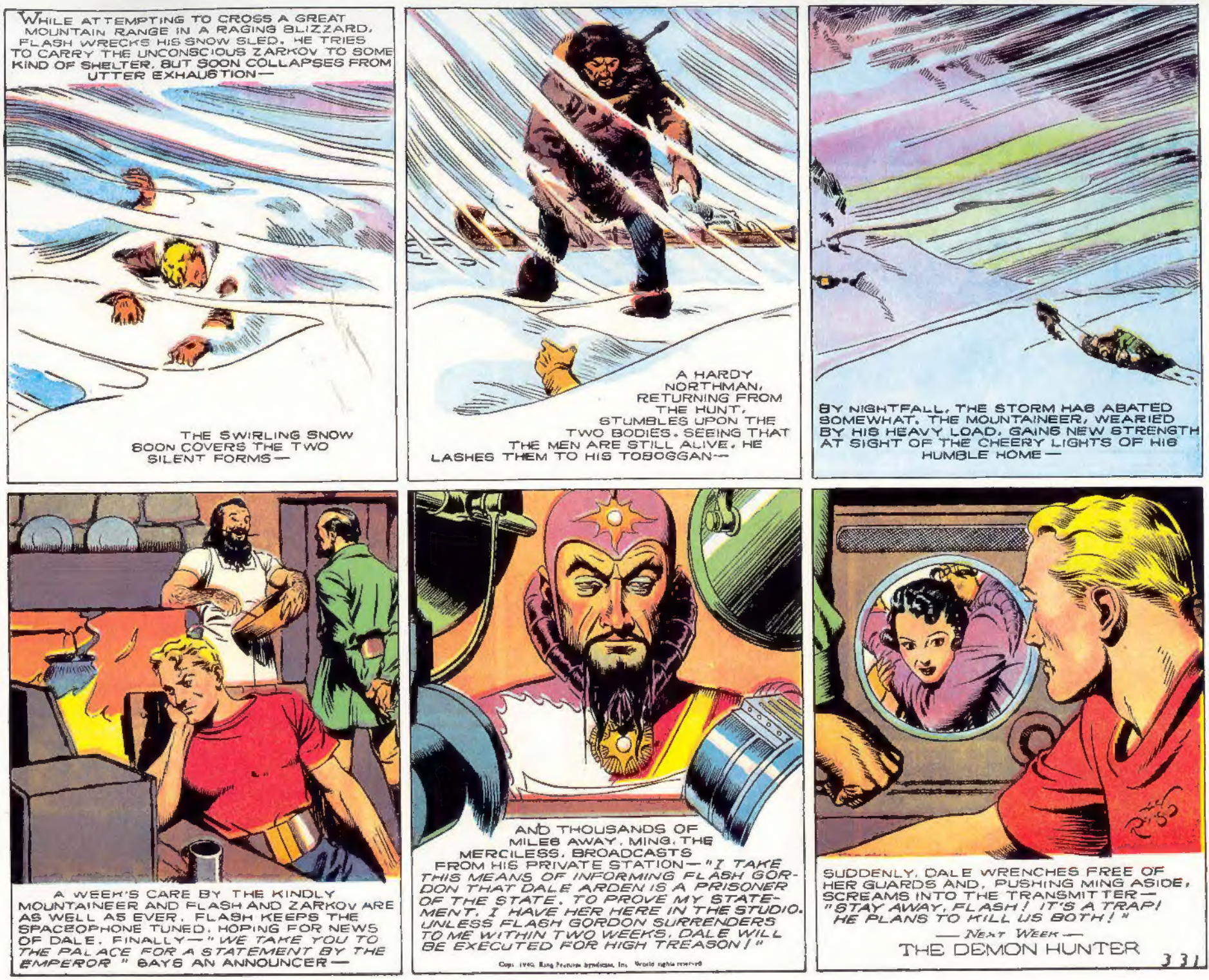
THERE THE TYRANNICAL MING, THE MERCILESS, HATED AND FEARED BY ALL MONGO, RECEIVES A LONG-AWAITED MESSAGE BY SPACEOPHONE —
"SIRE, MAJOR GARAN HAS ARRIVED AND BEGS AN AUDIENCE WITH YOUR MAJESTY."
— NEXT WEEK —
MING'S ULTIMATUM


WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CROSS A GREAT MOUNTAIN RANGE IN A RAGING BLIZZARD, FLASH WRECKS HIS SNOW SLED. HE TRIES TO CARRY THE UNCONSCIOUS ZARKOV TO SOME KIND OF SHELTER, BUT SOON COLLAPSES FROM UTTER EXHAUSTION—
THE SWIRLING SNOW SOON COVERS THE TWO SILENT FORMS—
A HARDY NORTHMAN, RETURNING FROM THE HUNT, STUMBLES UPON THE TWO BODIES. SEEING THAT THE MEN ARE STILL ALIVE, HE LASHES THEM TO HIS TOBOGGAN—
BY NIGHTFALL, THE STORM HAS ABATED SOMEWHAT. THE MOUNTAINEER, WEARIED BY HIS HEAVY LOAD, GAINS NEW STRENGTH AT SIGHT OF THE CHEERY LIGHTS OF HIS HUMBLE HOME—
A WEEK'S CARE BY THE KINDLY MOUNTAINEER AND FLASH AND ZARKOV ARE AS WELL AS EVER. FLASH KEEPS THE SPACEOPHONE TUNED, HOPING FOR NEWS OF DALE. FINALLY—"WE TAKE YOU TO THE PALACE FOR A STATEMENT BY THE EMPEROR" SAYS AN ANNOUNCER—
AND THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY, MING, THE MERCILESS, BROADCASTS FROM HIS PRIVATE STATION—"I TAKE THIS MEANS OF INFORMING FLASH GORDON THAT DALE ARDEN IS A PRISONER OF THE STATE. TO PROVE MY STATEMENT, I HAVE HER HERE IN THE STUDIO. UNLESS FLASH GORDON SURRENDERS TO ME WITHIN TWO WEEKS, DALE WILL BE EXECUTED FOR HIGH TREASON!"
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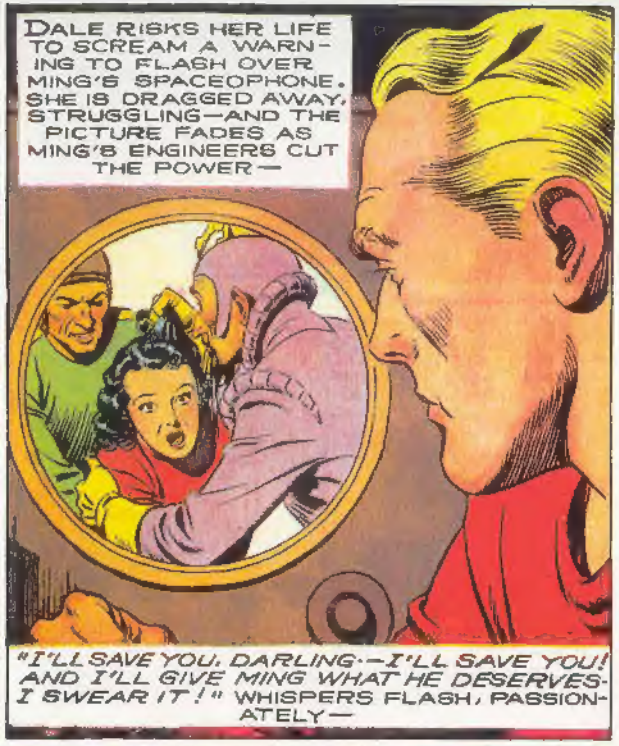
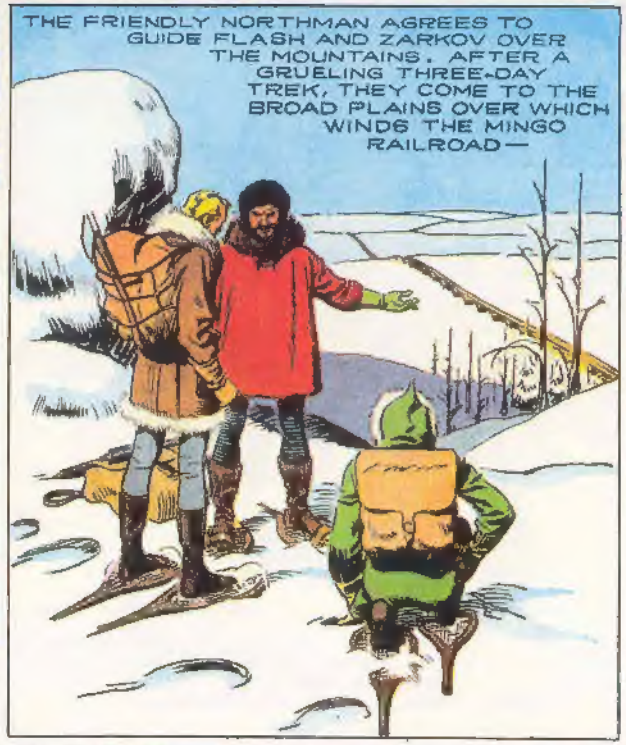
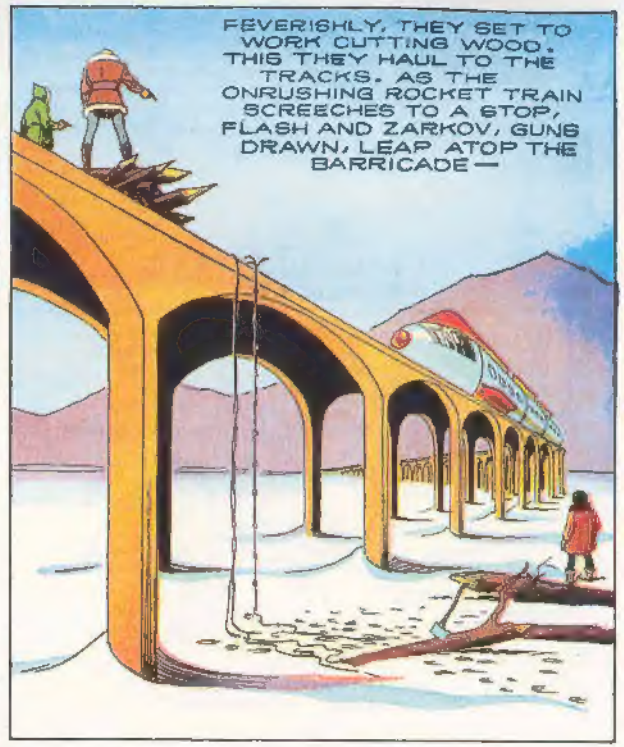
SUDDENLY, DALE WRENCHES FREE OF HER GUARDS AND, PUSHING MING ASIDE, SCREAMS INTO THE TRANSMITTER—"STAY AWAY, FLASH! IT'S A TRAP! HE PLANS TO KILL US BOTH!"
— NEXT WEEK —
THE DEMON HUNTER

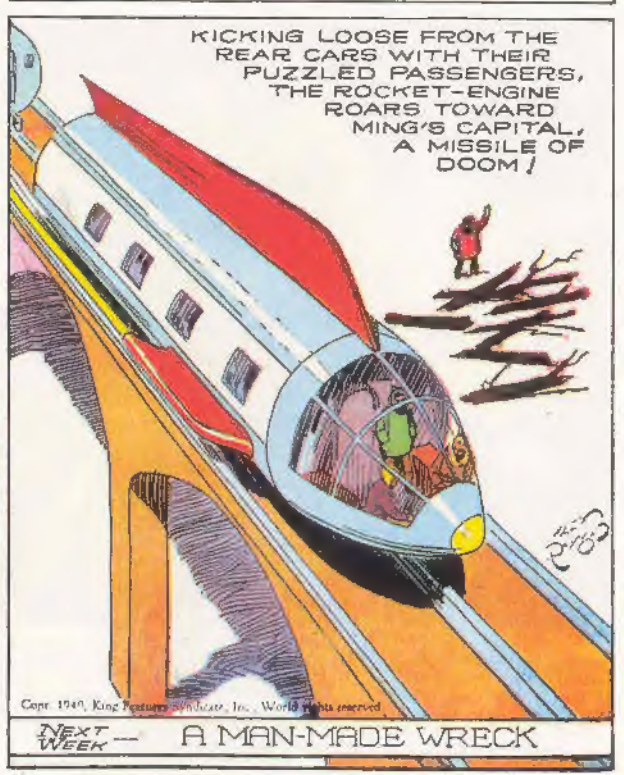

DALE RISKS HER LIFE TO SCREAM A WARNING TO FLASH OVER MING'S SPACEOPHONE. SHE IS DRAGGED AWAY, STRUGGLING—AND THE PICTURE FADES AS MING'S ENGINEERS CUT THE POWER—
"I'LL SAVE YOU, DARLING—I'LL SAVE YOU! AND I'LL GIVE MING WHAT HE DESERVES—I SWEAR IT!" WHISPERS FLASH, PASSIONATELY—


THE FRIENDLY NORTHMAN AGREES TO GUIDE FLASH AND ZARKOV OVER THE MOUNTAINS. AFTER A GRUELING THREE-DAY TREK, THEY COME TO THE BROAD PLAINS OVER WHICH WINDS THE MINGO RAILROAD—


FEVERISHLY, THEY SET TO WORK CUTTING WOOD. THIS THEY HAUL TO THE TRACKS. AS THE ONRUSHING ROCKET TRAIN SCREECHES TO A STOP, FLASH AND ZARKOV, GUNS DRAWN, LEAP ATOP THE BARRICADE—

FLASH CLIMBS INTO THE CONTROL CABIN—"ONE FALSE MOVE AND YOU'RE A DEAD MAN! WE'RE TAKING YOUR TRAIN! COME ON, ZARKOV."
4-7

THE ENGINEER GRIPS FLASH'S HAND—"FLASH GORDON! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE! MY NAME IS KATON. MING KILLED MY BROTHER—ONE OF YOUR FREEMEN. LET ME JOIN YOU!" "RIGHT!" LAUGHS FLASH—"WE'LL BEARD THE TYRANT IN HIS LAIR!"


KICKING LOOSE FROM THE REAR CARS WITH THEIR PUZZLED PASSENGERS, THE ROCKET-ENGINE ROARS TOWARD MING'S CAPITAL, A MISSILE OF DOOM!
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NEXT WEEK— A MAN-MADE WRECK